



37th Annual International Meeting

August 21-24, 2025

Budapest, Hungary

"MRA Innovations Flowing through Time"

A Guide to Budapest City Booklet

Dear colleagues and friends, welcome to Budapest, Hungary!

For the first time in SMRA history, the annual meeting will take place in Central Europe. Budapest is a vibrant city infused with history, culture and urban nature. We hope this guide helps you navigate and enjoy our city to the fullest during your visit. May you have further questions regarding your stay, don't hesitate to ask us!

Enjoy and make the most of it!

The Budapest Organizing Team

1. Arriving at the airport

Budapest is served by [Budapest Ferenc Liszt International Airport \(BUD\)](#), located appr.16 kms (about 10 miles) southeast of the city center.

Multiple official options are available for transportation into the city, including:

- **Public transport:** A cost-effective alternative is the [100E Airport Express Bus](#), which runs a direct route between the airport and key city locations such as Kálvin tér and Deák Ferenc tér. The fare is 2,500 HUF (around €6.50 or \$7), and the journey usually takes between 35 and 45 minutes. Tickets can be purchased at vending machines, via contactless payment on board, or through the [BudapestGO app](#).
- **Official taxis ([Főtaxi](#)):** The official authorized taxi service at the airport. Főtaxi stands are located directly outside terminal 2A and 2B, fares are metered. The fare to the city center generally ranges from 10,000 to 13,000 Hungarian Forints (approximately €26–€34 or \$28–\$36).
- **Uber or Bolt** applications are also available
- More information about airport transfer options is available on the airport's website: <https://www.bud.hu/en/passengers/transport>



2. Conference venue

The Basic Medical Science Center (Elméleti Orvostudományi Központ, EOK) of Semmelweis University is a modern building with unique architecture, designed to support learning and research. The building has won multiple architecture awards, including the Pro Architectura



Award and the Construction Excellence Award. It features large and small lecture rooms, a library, administrative offices, and research spaces, seamlessly blending education and science. Its spacious lecture halls, glass walls, and open areas create a bright and welcoming atmosphere. Located in the heart of Budapest, EOK is easily accessible and well-connected to the city.

Address:

[H-1094 Budapest, Tűzoltó street 37-47.](#)

Website: <https://semmelweis.hu/eok/en/>

Phone: +36-1-459-1500, ext. 60000

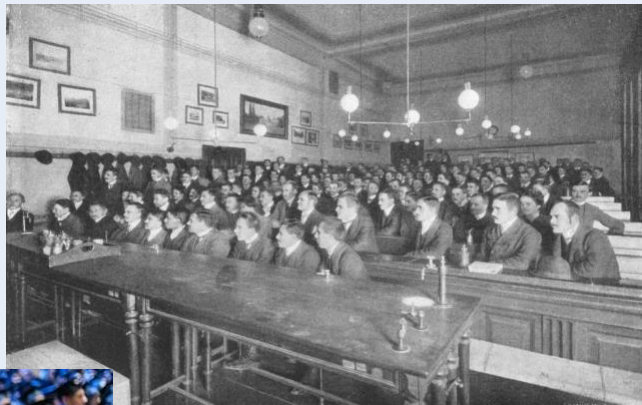


Getting there with public transport:

- **Metro:** Take Metro Line 3 (blue line) to Semmelweis Klinikák station; EOK is a 3-minute walk from there.
- **Tram:** Tram 4 and 6 stops nearby at Corvin Negyed station.
- **Bus:** Several bus lines, including 9, have stops within walking distance.

2. About Semmelweis University

Semmelweis University, established in 1769, is Hungary's oldest medical institution and a leading center for medical and health sciences education in Central Europe. Situated in Budapest, the university



integrates education, research, and healthcare, offering programs in Hungarian, English, and German. With nearly 16,000 students from over 100 countries, it fosters a diverse and international academic

community. The university comprises six faculties, including Medicine, Dentistry, Pharmaceutical Sciences, Health Sciences, Health and Public Administration, and the András Pető Faculty. As Hungary's largest healthcare provider, Semmelweis University combines clinical practice with cutting-edge research. Its commitment to excellence is reflected in its consistent ranking among the world's top universities.

Address: H - 1085 Budapest, Üllői út 26.

Phone: +36 1 459-1500

Website: <https://semmelweis.hu/english/>



2. Where to stay

Budapest offers a range of comfortable and convenient accommodation options near the Basic Medical Science Center (EOK). We recommend booking early, as August is a popular time for tourism in Budapest:

1. [Hotel Vision Budapest](#)

A stylish hotel with stunning views of the Danube.

- Walking distance: 35 minutes
- Public transport: 15 minutes
- Taxi: 10 minutes

2. [Hotel Palazzo Zichy](#)

A beautifully restored historic building in the heart of the Palace District.

- Walking distance: 20 minutes
- Public transport: 15 minutes
- Taxi: 5 minutes

3. [Hotel Moments Budapest](#)

Elegant rooms located on the iconic Andrassy Avenue.

- Walking distance: 40 minutes
- Public transport: 15 minutes
- Taxi: 10 minutes

4. [Leonardo Hotel Budapest](#)

Comfortable rooms within walking distance.

- Walking distance: 7 minutes

- Public transport / Taxi: Not needed
5. [Dean's Home Budapest](#)
A budget-friendly choice on-campus, just steps away from EOK.
- Walking distance: 2 minutes
 - Public transport / Taxi: Not needed
6. Airbnb options
Budapest has a wide selection of Airbnb apartments near the venue.

Additionally, our SMRA 2025 team, alongside the Early Career Committee, is working hard to increase accessibility for all by facilitating connections between those who are interested in shared/split accommodations. If this is something you'd like to hear more about please reach out directly to the ECC at ecc@society4mra.org.

2. Getting around Budapest

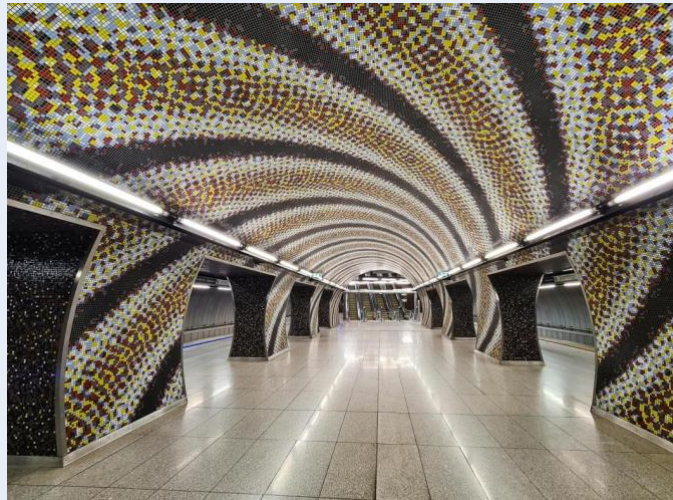
Budapest is a very **walkable** city, especially in the central districts where many attractions are clustered together. It is notable to mention that Budapest is a considered a safe place to take stroll day and night. We highly recommend that you bring a pair of sneakers!

- For longer distances, Budapest's public transportation system is efficient and easy to navigate. All services within the city are operated by the [Centre for Budapest Transport](#) which has offices and vending



machines all around the city. Four metro lines (yellow – 1, red – 2, blue – 3, green -4, various trams (busiest of which is Tram 4-6 and the scenic Tram 2, which runs along the Danube), many buses, and trolleys are available to you. You can purchase tickets at vending machines, but we mostly recommend the [BudapestGO app](#). A single ticket costs around 450 HUF, travelcards and passes are available for multiple days.

- For more direct travel, ride-hailing services like Uber and Bolt are popular and widely used. Bolt is especially efficient and often more affordable than traditional taxis.
- An eco-friendly and flexible transportation is the city's public bike-sharing system: [MOL Bubi](#). Bikes can be picked up at numerous docking stations across Budapest. 30-minute rides are free with a pass, one station is located right in front of the venue!
- **Taxi companies:** There are several taxi companies and independent taxi firms operating in Budapest. Please only get into a qualified, licensed taxi. We recommend that you order a taxi using an app or by phone. Budapest taxis have standardized signage: the cars are yellow with the words "qualified Budapest taxi/minősített budapesti taxi" on the left-side front door, the number plates are yellow, and the dashboard and the two rear doors display a table of fixed official taxi fares. Taxis are metered, and you can request them via phone or official apps. Some licensed taxi companies: Főtaxi, 6X6 Taxi, Taxi 4, City Taxi



3. Places to visit, Culture and Art

Whether you enjoy a hike and love hilltop views, seek colors in a gallery, like to submerge in history, or you just like take a dip in a thermal pool, Budapest has got it covered!

Known as the 'City of Spas,' Budapest boasts numerous thermal baths, a testament to its rich history and geothermal resources. While there are two dozen thermal baths in the city, for simplicity we recommend Széchenyi Thermal Bath, located in the City Park, one of Europe's largest medicinal bath complexes.



Rudas Turkish Bath, established in the 16th century during an Ottoman empire, offers a sneak peek into an era that shaped Hungary's history forever.

Gellért Bath is probably one of the most iconic structure of Hungarian Art Nouveau architecture full of marble and stained glass windows. Traditional turn of the century Budapest.



The 'must-walk-and-sees':



panoramic views

- ◆ Visit the Castle District to shoot for a view over the Danube: Buda Castle & Fisherman's Bastion, the Castle Garden
- ◆ Hungarian Parliament Building is impossible to miss
- ◆ St. Stephen's Basilica is the main Catholic church with a dome you can climb for some

- ◆ Heroes' Square is a monumental square flanked by museums on the each sider and the gateway leading into City Park, home to Vajdahunyad Castle, a boating lake, and the Budapest Zoo.



- ◆ A great way to get a glimpse of the city is to take a river cruise on the Danube, especially stunning when lit up at night.
- ◆ Located very close to the venue, the Great Market Hall gives a local feel to market goers.





- ◆ Between Buda and Pest runs the Danube and Margaret-island. It is a daily accessed green park of the city with various sporting activities and lots of greenery.

- ◆ Budapest is known for its abandoned urban multistore middle class buildings transformed into eclectic ruin bars, like Szimpla Kert, Fogasház, Doboz or Csendes.



- ◆ Situated in the Buda Hills, Normafa is a popular spot for hiking. The Erzsébet Lookout Tower, perched atop János Hill (the highest point in Budapest), offers memorable views of the city and the surrounding countryside. You can take the [Libegő chairlift](#) to get to the base of the hill.

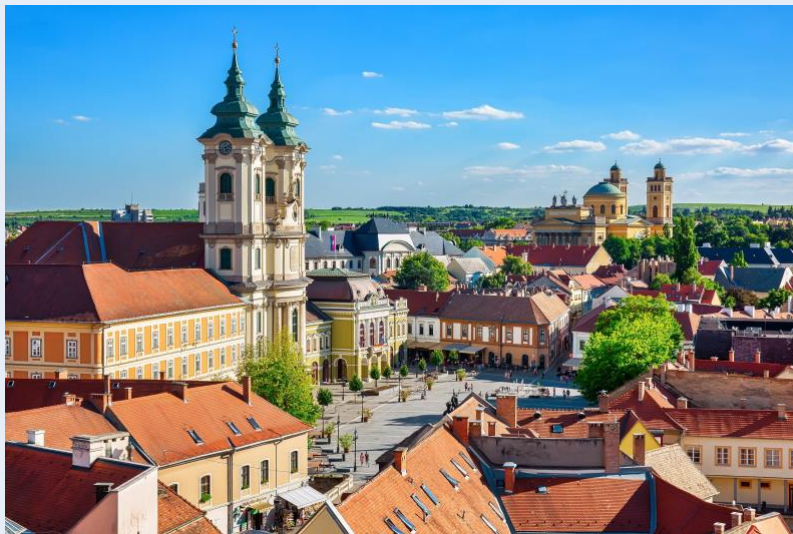
4. Day trips from Budapest

If you have extra time during your stay, consider exploring some of Hungary's nearby towns and regions. All locations are reachable via trains or buses:

- ◆ Lake Balaton is the largest lake of Central Europe. The north shore offers charming villages and vineyards, while the south is known for its beaches and resort towns.



- ◆ Eger, one picturesque town of Eastern Hungary, famous for its baroque architecture, historic castle, and red wines—especially Egri Bikavér (Bull's Blood). The Eger thermal baths and wine cellars in the Valley of the Beautiful Women are also highlights.



- ◆ Szentendre is just a short train ride away north of Budapest, a riverside town is known for its cobblestone streets, colorful houses, art galleries, and museums. A perfect half-day trip.



- ◆ Visegrád, located along the Danube Bend, a historic town features a medieval citadel ideal for hikers and history lovers alike.



5. Culinary Suggestions

Budapest's culinary scene is as rich and flavorful. Some typical, traditional dishes you might want to try are chicken stew, some real goulash, lángos, stuffed cabbage, chimney cake, and strudel. Another suggestion is to try some special lemonade around town! Hungarians do like their lemonade! Also, just a reminder: tap water in Budapest is safe to drink.

Various places you could try for Hungarian meals, such as Pingrumba, Paprika, Mazel Tov, Szatyor, New York Café, Central Market Hall, Babka, Borkonyha, Vakvarjú Csónakház, Trattoria Pomo D'Oro, Hungarikum Bisztro. Marumba, Donna Mamma, Vígvarjú, Quí.

6. Managing money, cell phone and internet connectivity

- ◆ Hungary's official currency is the Hungarian Forint (HUF). While credit and debit cards are widely accepted in Budapest, it's advisable to carry some cash for some smaller establishments, markets, or tipping. ATMs are readily available, and currency exchange offices can be found at the airport and throughout the city.
- ◆ Tipping is increasingly more commonly included in the bill, labeled 'service charge' of 10-15%, make sure to check it! Customary tipping can be given as appreciation for good service.
- ◆ In taxis, rounding up the fare or add a 10% tip is common.
- ◆ If you're traveling from another EU country, EU roaming regulations mean you can use your phone in Hungary just like at home, with no extra charges for calls, texts, or data (as long as you're within your plan's limits).
- ◆ For non-EU visitors, Wi-Fi is widely available in Budapest—most hotels, cafes, restaurants, and even public transportation hubs offer free access. If you're not planning to use mobile data heavily, relying on Wi-Fi might be all you need during your stay.

6. Visa application

As a society, we can't offer definitive Customs/Visa advice, but we are happy to report Hungary a low barrier place to visit. Tourism and conferences are welcome in Hungary, and the country is a Member State of the Schengen Agreement, therefore we hope the process will go smoothly for our attendees. Please visit the following Consular Services website for more detailed information: <https://konzinfo.mfa.gov.hu/en/how-apply-visa>

If you require a VISA to attend the conference, please contact smra.events@gmail.com ASAP with the following details:

NAME: _____

INSTITUTE: _____

FULL ADDRESS: _____
DATE OF BIRTH: _____ (Month, day, year)
PASSPORT NUMBER: _____
PLACE OF ISSUANCE FOR PASSPORT: _____
EMAIL: _____