

Restaurants, bistros

Borkonyha (Michelin star)



Price category €€€€€

A familiar style Michelin star place known also as WineKitchen

Wine, Hungarian, French, elegant, Terrace
1051 Budapest, Sas utca 3

Borkonyha, a mixture of a **French-style bistro** and a **contemporary Hungarian family restaurant**, offers a wide selection of wines, quality food, and friendly service. 48 types of wine are available for sampling from the 200-piece selection, which consists of spirits originating from the smallest vineyards and the most renowned vintners. The temperature-controlled wine shelf showcases the very best bottles available for purchase. The dishes are made from fresh ingredients, and the menu is written on a blackboard and changes every other week.

Macesz Bistro (trendy, homey taste)



Price category €€€€€

Hungarian/Jewish, elegant Bistro
1072 Budapest, Dob utca 26.

A cozy **Jewish bistro** in the middle of **Budapest's** old **Jewish** district, close to the Synagogue, the kosher food store and Szimpla Kert seems to be just the perfect plan. **Macesz Huszár** is a simple place with big portions and affordable prices. On the menu there are 25 different foods and all of them reflect a kind of **Jewish-Hungarian** cultural co-operation; here, **Hungarian** rolled cabbage and matzah balls can live in harmony next to each other. However, it's important to note that **Macesz Huszár** is not a kosher bistro despite the fact that there is no pork in the selection. By the menu, there is a remarkable wine list too.

Bock Bistro (homey with famous chef)



Price category €€€€€

Hungarian/International, elegant Bistro
1073 Budapest, Erzsébet körút 43-49.

Bock Bisztró, housed by one of the most elegant hotels of Budapest, **Corinthia Grand Hotel Royal**, and named after a renowned vintner, **offers traditional Hungarian dishes with a slight contemporary twist**. Bock's vibe and interior hardly harmonize with the hotel's high-class atmosphere, and is rather homely and dining room-like with its wooden chairs and wine-filled shelves. The menu consists of rustic Hungarian dishes, is determined by seasonalities, and is orchestrated by a masterful chef, Lajos Bíró.

Menza Restaurant&Cafe (young&busy) Price category €€€€€



Hungarian, International, Lunch menu, Terrace, Trending
1061 Budapest, Liszt Ferenc tér 2.

Menza is a fresh, young place and has a perfect location. It is ideal for a quick business appointment or for a lunch or dinner during sightseeing. Sometimes, though it is hard to get a table, so it's recommended to reserve one in advance, unless you want to wait 20-40 minutes at the bar! Local celebrities frequent the place. The service is quick but it may reflect on the quality of food. It is still worth a visit. The Setting: A relatively cheap, busy and very popular restaurant, café and bar around the Oktogon-area. The Vibe: Modern bistro feeling, in the summer a busy terrace. The place is always full of people, mostly tourists, managers and students. The Menu: Hungarian and International cuisine with a standardized menu, big portions, daily menus for a good price, in the evening drinks and cocktails are available. Always quick and friendly service.

Pesti Disznó (trendy & good value) Price category €€€€€



Hungarian, Bistro, Terrace
1065 Budapest, Nagymező utca 19.

Pesti Disznó regards itself as the first **Hungarian tapas bar** in **Budapest**. The restaurant in **Nagymező utca** is on a mission to season the **Hungarian gastronomy** with new looks but using the **traditional Hungarian flavors** and ingredients. Bean soup, stew, stuffed cabbage, Hungarian blood pudding and liver pudding and sausages – all appear on your table reloaded with new flavors in small portions. **Hungarian dishes** are of course made complete with a great variety of **Hungarian wines, beers** and **pálinkas**. The prices are naturally steeper than those in a butcher's but the daily offers are absolutely reasonable.

ÉS Bisztró (trendy & good value) Price category €€€€€



Hungarian, Viennese, Steak, Beer, Wine, Trending
1052 Budapest, Deák Ferenc utca 12-14. Kempinski

ÉS Bisztró is a casual Hungarian-Viennese bistro and steakhouse in the heart of Budapest. Breaking with traditional restaurant routine, ÉS offers a more laid-back experience to enjoy wine, beer and nibbles while chatting away. Aside from classic Hungarian and Viennese dishes, we also grill meats and fish. On Sunday experience our Family Table – not brunch, because at ÉS even brunch is something special!

Cafés with Breakfast, Brunch, Snacks

Centrál Café (historical and fancy)

Price category €€€€€



Hungarian, Lunch menu, Breakfast, Classic Café, Terrace
1053 Budapest, *Károlyi Mihály utca 9.*

Founded in 1887, **Centrál Café** is among the eldest **restaurants and cafés** in Budapest. It represents **tradition** and history, but it is also open to novelties. Its beautiful, **antique interior**, the paintings, decoration, lights and elaborate wooden surfaces make it one-of-a-kind. The kitchen focuses mostly on **Hungarian cuisine** and also serves **excellent desserts** and fine

coffee. You'll find **Centrál** in the heart of the city, **close to the Elizabeth Bridge** and the pedestrian shopping streets that take you back to the 19th century Budapest.

Gerlóczy Café (popular & busy)

Price category €€€€€



Classic Café, Breakfast, International, French, Lunch menu, Terrace, Dog-friendly
1052 Budapest, *Gerlóczy utca 1*

Gerlóczy Café is a home-like, **Parisian-style café, restaurant,** and boutique hotel only a few meters from the City Hall in **Gerlóczy utca**, downtown. The ambiance is intimate, the decoration is tasteful and the kitchen is open-view, so there is enough stimulations reaching guests while waiting. The menu

is constantly changing, as it follows the seasons. The flavors are mostly **French**, but there are also other, Mediterranean dishes as well. The **breakfast menu** consists of classical dishes and there is a wide selection of pastries, sandwiches and bistro food, accompanied by excellent **coffee** and fine **wines**.

Két Szerecsen Bistro & Café (lovely)

Price category €€€€€



International, Lunch menu, Breakfast, Terrace
1065 Budapest, *Nagymező utca 14.*

Két Szerecsen is a great choice for a date, a lunch, or for sipping some wine with your friends. The spot is characterized by an intimate vibe, and if you feel like it, you can just drop by for a drink, although you shouldn't miss out on a tasty Mediterranean meal. The setting: **Két Szerecsen** is situated nearby the **Opera**, in **Nagymező utca** (Nagymező Street), a.k.a.

the Broadway of Pest. The vibe: A Mediterranean interior characterized by an intimate atmosphere and a bistro-infusion, spiced up with Andalusian lamps and candle light. The menu: Excellent tapas are served with both Hungarian and Mediterranean dishes. Breakfast is available until 11 AM. **Két Szerecsen** used to function as a café, and is keeping all the coffee house traditions alive. If you'd like to get a taste of the assortment

Famous Historical Cafés in the Neighborhood

New York Café



Price category €€€€€

A must place place titled the nices café of the world.

Classic Café, rated for the best café in the world in 2012
1073 Budapest, Erzsébet körút 9-11.

The New York, celebrating its **120th birthday** in 2014-, is more than a **coffee house**. It is an scene of Hungarian literary life, the meeting point of tourists and art enthusiasts, and the stronghold of refined gastronomy. The café that was once chosen as the **most beautiful in the world** is found on the ground floor of **Boscolo Hotel Budapest**, in the buzzing **downtown**. If you yearn for a touch of the aristocratic vibes, drop in for a coffee and immerse yourself into an **authentic 19th century coffee experience** in a scenery of **gilded and marble surfaces** ornamented with wood and crystal. A majestic spot with authentic traditions.

The New York, celebrating its **120th birthday** in 2014-, is more than a **coffee house**. It is an scene of Hungarian literary life, the meeting point of tourists and art enthusiasts, and the stronghold of refined gastronomy. The café that was once chosen as the **most beautiful in the world**

Gerbeaud Café



Price category €€€€€

Classic confectionery, Must-see sights, Breakfast, Terrace
1051 Budapest, Vörösmarty tér 7-8.

The confectionery in the **Gerbeaud House** is one of the symbols of **Vörösmarty tér**, and probably the most widely known café of **Budapest**, also a gem among the top cafés of Europe. In 2009, Gerbeaud opened a joint in Tokyo as well. With 150 years of experience behind its back, the **Gerbeaud** offers **classic cakes and masterpieces** that also impress the profession. The interior of gold, marble and wood is reminiscent of the **early 20th century golden age of Budapest**. A must-see for both **locals and tourists!**

The confectionery in the **Gerbeaud House** is one of the symbols of **Vörösmarty tér**, and probably the most widely known café of **Budapest**, also a gem among the top cafés of Europe. In 2009, Gerbeaud opened a joint in Tokyo as well. With 150 years of experience behind its back, the **Gerbeaud** offers **classic cakes and masterpieces** that also impress the

Művész Café



Price category €€€€€

Classic Café, Hungarian, International, Lunch menu, Terrace
1064 Budapest, Andrassy út 29.

The ornamented, elegant **Művész Café** on **Andrassy út** looks back on a history of nearly **120 years**. Its turn-of-the-century atmosphere has been known to touch everyone. The **period elegance** is mixed with modern comfort and authentic style here. The **café** has managed to preserve its original interior, furniture and marvelous chandeliers. Today, it is a popular spot with youngsters and tourists both. In the summer, the place also opens a **terrace**.

The ornamented, elegant **Művész Café** on **Andrassy út** looks back on a history of nearly **120 years**. Its turn-of-the-century atmosphere has been known to touch everyone. The **period elegance** is mixed with modern comfort and authentic style here. The **café** has managed to preserve its original interior, furniture and marvelous chandeliers. Today, it is a popular spot with youngsters and tourists both. In the summer, the place also opens a **terrace**.

Café Parisi (ex-Alexandra Book café at Lotz Hall)

Price category €€€€



Classic Café, sweets, snacks
1061 Budapest, Andrásy út 39.

You can sip your **coffee** or nibble at your cake with live music in the background in a calm and grandiose spot in Andrásy út, in the heart of the **downtown Budapest**. The building that functioned as casino in the 19th century then housed the first real department store of the city is now an exhibition hall. Characterized by a **luxurious interior**. The beautiful **Lotz Hall** is an ideal and frequented venue for

various events.

Drink, eat, relax, terraces – recommended Gastro streets to enjoy evenings

Budapest has specific areas that you have to visit from late afternoon till the night. If you want to have just a drink or maybe eat something or just talk to a friend, look for the venue where people are showing up, do not forget to visit these places. You will find a lot of bars, cafés, bistros, restaurants or simple snack places, from April till November open-air terraces. At the next table may be young students, managers, celebrities or tourists. Enjoy the colorful evenings of Budapest.

Gozsdu Udvar (Gozsdu Courtyards) – Király u. 13.

One of the most busiest „promenade” with cafés, wine bars, snack places, restaurants, terraces in the Gozsdu Courts building complex. 7 courtyards between the streets Király utca and Dob utca are opened together. Most of the places are open till late in the night, at weekends could be extremely busy.

Liszt Ferenc tér (Liszt Ferenc Square)

The summer paradise for relaxed afternoons, evenings on huge terraces all around the square. About 15-20 places next to each other from simple pizzeria through cafés till good restaurants next to the wonderful building of the Music Academy.

Ráday utca (Ráday street)

from Kálvin tér (Kálvin Square, Metro 3 or tram 47) till Kinizsi utca (Kinizsi street)

A long line of gastro-places with terraces from April till October. Tapas bars, restaurants with Hungarian or International kitchen, cafés, bars in this atmospheric street.

Around St. Stephen's Basilica

plenty of restaurants, fancy bistros, wine bars in this area just in 500-600 meters:

Sas utca, Hercegprímás utca, Október 6. utca and Arany János utca

Nightlife and the ruin pubs

Budapest has an exciting and diverse nightlife. The opening hours are not limited by the city, so most weekend party places are open until dawn or even late mornings. Unlike in other cities, there is no specific district or part of town which is known for clubbing and nightlife; all the best places are in different districts of town.

The selection of places to dance and drink or just listen to jazz or blues is enormous, even on weekdays. Admission fees are comparatively low, and drinks are generally cheap. There are many club types: modern dance clubs, cellar jazz bars, open-air party places with palm trees, late-night cafés and romantic cocktail bars and so on.

Parties in the top clubs are well advertised in advance, but there's generally no need to get tickets before going there - the worst thing that can happen is that you'll have to stand in line a little bit before gaining admittance. However, if you are visiting Budapest with a bigger group, it's worth making a reservation guest list when going to a major party to avoid confusion at the door.

There are places in Budapest that have a unique feel to them - the best examples are the so called ruin-clubs, mostly in Budapest's Jewish district. These alternative clubs are located in derelict old buildings, which are slated to be taken down, to give home to new housing projects.

A typical ruin-pub last about 3 years before being forced to move somewhere else. Lots of young professionals spend their evenings here, huddled over their laptops, while listening to the occasional live jazz concert, munching a sandwich and drinking beer.

From every spring until autumn, open-air clubs open their doors along the Danube or in South Buda, near the university district of Budapest and Margaret Island. Some of them even feature a small swimming pool for hot summer nights.

The majority of live jazz clubs and bars are in Budapest's 5th and 7th district, near Blaha Lujza tér and Oktogon. The larger discotheques and clubs are all over the city, but many of them are clustered in the northern suburbs of Buda.

Ruin pubs

Budapest's seventh district, once home to a flourishing Jewish community before World War II but which languished for decades after, has emerged as one of the best bar-hopping 'hoods on the busy Pest side of the Danube.

This renaissance has been led - fittingly, perhaps, given the still-derelict state of much of the area - by a string of what are called "ruin pubs" (*romkocsmá* in Hungarian) that have opened in recent years along the back streets behind the **Great Synagogue**.

Each ruin pub is unique, but they all share certain similarities. The main ingredient is usually an abandoned building, preferably with a vacant lot nearby to hold some picnic tables and a few beer taps. Add to that a bit of thrift-shop decor and a healthy dose of hipster vibe and the result is what you might get if you crossed a chill Berlin squat with a smallish Munich beer hall. The best ruin pubs offer live music or DJs on the weekends, as well as film nights and art exhibitions. Some even have light food and hostel accommodation. They're the perfect spot to unwind on a warm summer night after a busy day of sightseeing.

Ruin pubs to the rescue

The arrival of the ruin pubs couldn't have come sooner for beleaguered Budapest VII (as the city's districts are designated; when in Budapest, do as the Romans do). Though the area is a stone's throw from *Andrássy út*, Pest's swankiest boulevard, it suffered from a mix of neglect, bad karma and poverty that started during the war with the deportation of tens of thousands of Jewish residents and continued into the 1960s, '70s, and '80s with the forced relocation here of the Roma to occupy the abandoned houses.

Now, main streets like *Király utca* and *Dob utca* sport trendy coffeehouses and wine bars that sit alongside remnants of Jewish life - small family-owned restaurants and bakeries - that managed to survive.

Two options for a 'ruinous' night

Two of the best ruin pubs are all a short walk from one another and can be taken in fairly easily during a night of methodical drinking. Each has its own personality, so the best bet is simply to find the one that best suits the night and the mood.

Szimpla kert. Nearly every discussion of ruin pubs begins with the granddaddy of them all. Szimpla was the first to open and is still arguably the best and bawdiest of the bunch. Several rooms, including a large open-air garden, can accommodate hundreds of people, making it a good choice if you're travelling in a group. In addition to beer, there's wine, cocktails, and light food. Address: 7th district, Kazinczy u. 14.

Fogas ház is a relative newcomer, having opened its doors only in 2010 after a few years of opening briefly and then closing down. It sees its mission as going beyond a ruin pub to being a community cultural centre for the rapidly gentrifying area around nearby *Klauzál tér*, which was once the heart of the former Jewish quarter. The clientele here tends to be more local than Szimpla. That said, it's not nearly as homey as the former, nor as lively as the latter. Address: 7th district, Akácfa u. 51.

Public Transportation

Budapest has a good organized and cheap public transportation. 4 metro lines, buses, trams, trolleybuses, cable car to the Castle Hill, rack railway in the Buda Mountains, etc. are serving an easy access in the city.

Tickets

at metro (subway) stations, bigger tram or bus stops from the ticket machine (with English menu) also by card or HUF cash

Single ticket: 350 Ft (1,15 EUR)

Single ticket bought on the spot at the driver: 450 Ft (1,50 EUR)

Block of 10 tickets: 3.000 Ft (10 EUR)

Single ticket on public transportation boats along the Danube: 750 Ft (2,50 EUR)

Children ticket on public transportation boats along the Danube: 550 Ft (1,85 EUR)

AIRPORT SHUTTLE TICKET FOR BUS 100E: 900 HUF (2,80 EUR)

Passes

at metro (subway) stations, bigger tram or bus stops from the ticket machine (with English menu) also by card or HUF cash

24 hrs. travel card: 1.650 Ft (5,50 EUR)

24 hrs. group travel card up to 5 persons: 3.300 Ft (11 EUR)

72 hrs. travel card: 4.150 Ft (13,85 EUR)

7-day travel card: 4.950 Ft (16,50 EUR)

For further details visit www.bkk.hu or the next BKK Ticket Office on Deák Ferenc tér (350 meter from the flat) in the underpass at the entry of 3 metro lines.

Budapest Card

- FREE public transport
- FREE entry to a bath
- FREE museums
- FREE guided walking tours
- FREE mobile app
- More than 70 services offering 10-100% discount
- Save up to 15000 HUF

In 3 versions for 24 hrs. 48 hrs. or 72 hrs.

For detailed information visit www.budapest-card.com or www.budapestinfo.hu or the next BKK Ticket Office at Deák Tér (like above for public transportation tickets and passes) or the next Tourist Office.

Tourist Offices

Budapest Info Point

with all information around the city, programs, events, brochures in the Downtown

at Deák Ferenc tér – 1052 Sütő utca (street) 2. (M1, M2, M3 Deák Ferenc tér station),
open: 8:00 am – 8:00 pm

More Budapest Info Points: <https://www.budapestinfo.hu/budapestinfo-point>

Sightseeing buses

More companies offers sightseeing with double-decker or opened buses in summertime or Riverboat bus, which takes You into the Danube inside during Your tour

Big Bus Tours Budapest

3 routes, 30 stops

guiding on the bus in more than 25 languages

<https://www.bigbustours.com/en/budapest/budapest-bus-tours/>

Hop On Hop Off

6 routes, 33 stops

guiding on the bus in more than 16 languages

<https://hoponhopoff-budapest.com/>

Hop On Hop Off

3 routes, 24 stops

guiding on the bus in more than 16 languages

<https://city-sightseeing.com/en/48/budapest>

All companies have more lines, bus+boat combination, a lot of offers.

Compact Tourist Information's on the web

Visit www.budapest.com On this site You find all of information's about sights, attraction, events, offered walking tours after Your interest, thermal bathes, etc.

The new trending toristic website of the city: <https://spiceofeurope.com/>

Most popular website of locals, expats and tourists

Click on www.welovebudapest.com if You are curious what is happening around You in the city. Places, sights, programs, tips, restaurants, local recommendations in one site. Locals, students, expats, foreigners living in Budapest use this site to be updated. Also in english.

Most visited concert places

Here some important, popular adresses to plan Your program:

OPERA

www.opera.hu

MUSIC ACADEMY FRANZ LISZT

with concerts (amazing art nouveau building)

www.zeneakademia.hu

MüPa (Palace of Arts)

huge modern complex next to center with all kind of concerts, ballet, modern circus, exhibitions, etc.):

www.mupa.hu

BMC (Budapest Music Center)

with concerts focused on jazz or jazzy music sometimes with classical combination. This is also in the center just behind the Central Market Hall. On the web:

www.bmc.hu

You can switch to English.

Organ Concerts at the St. Stephen's Basilica

www.organconcert.hu

Visit in the Parliament

You can visit the Parliament just in guided groups from 8 am to 6 pm. Please click to this page to choose a day and a group & language and make your reservation. You can pay by card on the website.

www.parlament.hu

Make your booking for the next days, bring your reservation and they print the ticket at the visitor center.

Budapest – the European capital of spa

<http://www.bathsbudapest.com/>

Budapest holds the title "City of Spas" since the year 1934, as it has more thermal and medicinal water springs than any other capital city in the world. There are 118 springs in Budapest, providing over 70 million liters of thermal water a day. The temperature of the waters is between 21 and 78 Celsius.

Budapest's thermal waters were enjoyed by the Romans as early as the 2nd century, but it was only during the Turkish occupation of Hungary in the 16th century that the bath culture really started flourishing.

Today, there are 15 public thermal baths in Budapest, not counting the private thermal spas established in some luxury hotels, such as the Ramada Plaza, Thermal Hotel Margitsziget and the Corinthia Royal, which have their own spas.

The spa at the Hotel Gellért is a public bath. Some of the baths arrange special programs. The Rudas Bath, built in the 1500-s, gives home to regular night parties on Friday and Saturday nights, with great music and special light effects.

These are very popular with young people from all over the world. Others, such as the Palatinus Bath on Margaret Island from May till October, have special pools for children with special effects (whirlpool, wave-pool, water-chutes).

Some baths are built in parks, with green areas where one may relax and sunbathe and do sports, or just read a book (such as the Csillaghegyi Bath).

Recommended bathes (the 3 most popular spa)

Széchenyi fürdő (Széchenyi Bath)

in the City Park (Városliget) behind Heroes Square (Hősök tere)

easy access with Metro line 1

popular with tourists and locals

The Széchenyi Thermal Bath is one of the largest spa complexes in Europe. It's also the first thermal bath of Pest. It owes its existence to Vilmos Zsigmondy, a mining engineer. on his initiative, successful deep borings had been performed in the City Park, where later, in 1881 already an "Artesian bath" was in operation. However, this temporary type of bath was meeting the demands of the age less and less, so the Széchenyi Thermal Bath was built in 1913 on the basis of plans composed by Győző Czigler. The Bath was expanded in 1927 with a public bathing department for gentlemen and ladies and a beach site. In the middle of the 1960s, further transformations took place, including the creation of a group thermal section in bathing suits as well as a daytime outpatient hospital (complex physiotherapy department).

The reconstruction of the pools of the swimming section, their equipment with water filtering and circulation devices was completed in 1999. The so-called fancy bath includes a whirling corridor, underwater effervescence production, neck shower, water beam back massage installed in the sitting banks and many other service

Gellért fürdő (Gellért bath)

at Gellért tér on Buda side at Szabadság híd (Liberty bridge)

easy access with tram 47 from Deák Ferenc tér

an exclusive, but unique bath complex with a bit higher prices

The Gellért Thermal Bath and Hotel, known world-wide and highly favored by foreigners, built in a secession style, opened its gates in 1918 and was expanded in 1927 by the wave-bath and in 1934 by the effervescent bath. In the course of the modernization accomplished in our days, the sitting-pool in the swimming complex, the outdoor sitting pool and the children's pool were renovated; they were equipped with a state-of-the-art water filtering and circulation device. At present, nearly all healing facilities may be used in the Gellért Thermal Bath. The Bath includes a department offering complex thermal bath facilities (daytime/outpatient hospital), it also has an inhalatorium.

Rudas fürdő (Rudas bath)

at Döbrentei tér (Square) on Buda side at Erzsébet híd (Elisabeth bridge)

easy access with buses from Astoria (Metro1) or Ferenciek tere (Metro3)

traditional Turkish bath with modern spa sections, divided steam, sauna, etc. for men and women

ATTENTION! On Weekdays divided men or women day, on Sat. and Sun. mixed for families.

On Friday and Saturday night from 10 pm till 4 am also NIGHT BATHING (mixed) available.

The centerpiece of the bath today, the Turkish bath, was built during the 16th century in the period of the Turkish occupation. Below the 10 m diameter dome, sustained by 8 pillars, there is an octagonal pool. The thermal bath has been visited from 1936 on exclusively by men. The swimming pool, operating as a therapeutic swimming facility and with a sauna, was built in 1896. In its drinking hall, the water of the springs Hungária, Attila and Juventus can be consumed for the purposes of a drinking cure. In the bath, there is a daytime outpatient hospital operating with a complex physiotherapy department.