

Last Name, First Name
Address in Hungary
Phone

DD Month YYYY

Budapesti és Pest Megyei Regionális Igazgatóság
1117 Budapest, Budafoki u. 60.
1093 Budapest, Bf.: 314.

A detailed statement of the purpose of their stay in Hungary

My husband and I are retired. We plan to live in Budapest, Hungary while we are retired. I do not intend to work while in Hungary. Three years ago when my husband retired from the company for which he had worked for 28 years, my husband and I realized it was financially possible for us to leave the corporate world and have a different life. We are financially stable and have a guaranteed monthly income from his retirement pension. Additionally, we have significant savings to cover any unexpected expenses or to purchase an apartment. We decided we wanted to live outside the United States and spend our retirement traveling and exploring other countries and cultures.

During the past year of our residence in Hungary, my husband and I have explored Budapest and Hungary and continue to be amazed by the beauty and resiliency of the Magyar culture and people. Budapest has the refinement of a cosmopolitan European city without the pretension of Paris or Milan. The city offers access to opera, theatre, ballet, music, museums, and great restaurants, as well as numerous local and regional festivals that showcase different aspects of the Magyar culture.

While our attempts at learning and speaking Hungarian are often met with laughter or confusion by native Hungarians, we continue to persevere and hope to one day be able to converse in Hungarian.

We wish to continue exploring Hungary. During our residency in Hungary we have hiked portions of the National Blue Trail across the north of Hungary, but still have large portions of the Blue Trail, and other Hungarian trails, that we want to hike. We have biked around Lake Balaton, and portions of the Eurovelo 6 route down the Danube from Vienna through Hungary, and hope to bike the remaining sections across Serbia and Romania to the Black Sea in 2015. Every excursion we complete leads to new ideas for continued exploration and discovery.

Costs of living

The cost of living in Budapest is significantly less expensive than many of its neighboring countries. Even though Hungary is an EU-member it still has its own currency; the Hungarian Forint (HUF) offers us an advantageous exchange rate. Rental fees in the city centre, food, and entertainment are also very affordable. We are currently renting an apartment, but may purchase a flat sometime in the future.

Transportation

Budapest has an excellent public transportation system. We purchase monthly metro cards and use public transportation to maintain daily life and to explore the city. We also purchased a car this summer, a Suzuki Swift (made in Hungary!), and it has increased our ability to explore the more remote regions of Hungary.

Architecture

Most of Budapest was built in the late 19th and early 20th century, with an architectural mix of Gothic, Renaissance, Neoclassical, Baroque, and Art Nouveau. The old world charm of Budapest is enthralling. We love walking the streets and admiring the buildings throughout the old parts of the city. We have eagerly watched the renovation of many of the older facades and are pleased to see the historic renewal of Budapest. We have also discovered some of the newer parts of Budapest and we enjoy the contrast between old and new as Hungary continues to grow and prosper.

Since my husband's retirement in 2010 many of our friends and peers near his age have passed away. Their deaths made us reconsider how we were living our lives. We determined that we were financially stable and did not need the income from our jobs; that we could afford a good life from his retirement pension. I would like to spend that time continuing to explore Budapest and the areas around it.

Very Respectfully,

(signature)

Name

Name
Phone
email