

TOUR ITINERARY

DAY 1 : BUDAPEST

Welcome dinner and orientation at the hotel

Budapest is one of the world's most romantic and entertaining capitals. It is known as the "Queen of the Danube" and considered one of the most beautiful cities in Europe. Much of the city is protected as an expansive UNESCO World Heritage Site. Budapest is also well known as an arts and culture hub and boasts some of the best restaurants and shops in the country.



DAY 2: BUDAPEST

Full day guided tour: including all of the most exciting tourist destinations with a personalized touch: *Private tour of the Parliament Castle District: Matthias Church, Fisherman Bastion | chocoMe Atelier Chocolate Tour | Hero's Square | Vajdahunyad Castle | Andrassy Avenue*

DAY 3 : GÖDÖLLŐ, HOLLÓKŐ

Royal Castle of Gödöllő: The 250-year-old Royal Palace is a significant work of Hungarian Baroque architecture and was a favorite destination for Emperor Franz Joseph and his wife, Queen Elizabeth. **The Old Village of Hollókő:** This UNESCO World Heritage site is a deliberately preserved traditional settlement, serving as a living example of rural Hungarian life in the 17th and 18th centuries. Step back in time as you enjoy folk activities, demonstrations, dance and food of the Palóc people.



DAY 4: BUDAPEST

Opera House Tour: guided tour with a private mini-concert (solo aria). **Walking Tour:** to explore the heart of the city, including the Jewish Quarter, the Great Central Synagogue on Dohany Street (largest in Europe), St. Stephen Basilica, offering a spectacular view from its 300 foot high dome, famous coffee houses, boutiques and more! **Interactive Cooking Class:** In the late afternoon, drive to the Buda-Etyek wine region, about 30 minutes outside Budapest, famous for its fresh and crisp white wines, typically grown from pinot gris and sauvignon blanc grapes, and its celebrated sparkling Torley wine. Practice your culinary skills during an interactive cooking class accompanied by regional wines.



DAY 5 & 6: EXPLORE THE COUNTRYSIDE

Head south to discover the beauty of rural Hungary and the **wine region of Szekszard**. Step back in time and enjoy a simple yet luxurious stay at a **boutique castle hotel**. The manor and the landscape transports you into a fairytale, set in the 1800's. Activities and visits may include horse drawn carriage rides, artisan cheese making, visiting an organic farm, visiting a traditional honey cake museum, cooking demonstration, winery tour and tasting, "palinka" distillery tour, and visiting the village of Kalocsa, famous for its beautiful embroideries.

DAY 7 & 8: TOKAJ REGION

Immerse yourself in the Tokaj wine region's historic cultural landscape with its intricate pattern of vineyards, farms, villages and their networks of deep wine cellars carved by hand into mostly volcanic rocks.

Wine has been produced in the Tokaj wine region for more than 1000 years. The socio-cultural, ethnic and religious diversity of the inhabitants, together with the special fame of the Tokaji Aszu Wine, has contributed to the rich and diverse cultural heritage of the region. Activities may include: visiting several wineries to learn about this UNESCO-listed region, meeting the winemakers and sampling a variety of traditional, modern and experimental wines.

Andrassy Rezidencia Wine & Spa Hotel: To rest up after a hard day of wine tasting, the Andrassy Rezidencia's fittingly named VinoSense Spa provides high quality wellness and spa services such as, you guessed it, the signature Tokaji wine bath!



DAY 9: EGER

Travel to Hungary's wine region famous for its "Bull's Blood." During a guided tour of Eger, a jewelry box of a town, learn about its history of Turkish occupation and defeat, during which the townspeople prevented an Ottoman invasion of central Europe in 1552. Climb an original minaret and stroll the streets of the Baroque town center built in the 1800's with Dobo Square at its heart. Then spend some time "cellar hopping" in the **Valley of Beautiful Women**, tasting the celebrated Bull's Blood and other local wines.

DAY 10: BUDAPEST

Spend your last full day in Hungary shopping, re-visiting your favorite spots in the city, or discovering yet another exciting new place. You will have the opportunity to visit the Freedom Bridge, Pedestrian Mall and the Great Market Hall, the country's largest covered market full of tasty snacks, gifts and people watching amidst the hustle and bustle. **Optional:** Visit the workshops and showrooms of contemporary Hungarian fashion designers.

DAY 11 : Tour ends after breakfast.



Hungary has become a popular tourist destination thanks to its rich culture, cosmopolitan cities and sweeping natural landscapes. On this tour, you will experience Hungary as few tourists do, exploring the country as an insider, reaching beyond popular tourist destinations and exploring little known gems. The tour focuses on living local cultures, culinary traditions and viticulture.

Creative Cultural Exchange (CCE) is an organization committed to promoting innovative cross-cultural dialogue, collaboration and development between the United States, Hungary and other countries in Central and Eastern Europe. CCE's goal is to foster a deeper understanding of our diverse cultures while highlighting our shared humanity through cultural tours and events, professional development programs and charitable initiatives.

Csilla Grauzer, your guide, is a native Hungarian with years of experience introducing travelers to her homeland. She is Executive Director of CCE and the Honorary Consul of Hungary in Minnesota, serving as an official cultural delegate between Hungary and the United States. Whether she is hunting for antique treasures in small towns of Western Hungary or navigating the restaurant scene in Budapest, Csilla leads travelers with in-depth insider knowledge, a personal touch, passion for the culinary arts and savvy travel style.

TOUR DETAILS

Price: \$3,400 (6-12 participants)

Price: \$3,600 (4-6 participants)

Single supplement: \$900

All pricing reflects per-person in-country expenses.

The tour is limited to 12 people.

Final schedule and tour details will be available 30 days before departure.

Tour includes:

- * 10 nights accommodation in 4 or 5 star hotels (double-occupancy rooms)
- * All breakfasts
- * 10 meals (lunch or dinner)
- * All ground transportation in air-conditioned mini bus
- * All local tours, guides, entrance fees and shows
- * Spa voucher at Andrassy Castle Spa Hotel
- * Airport transfers

Tour does not include:

- * International airfare
- * Alcoholic drinks, unless listed as part of activity (wine/champagne tastings)
- * Gratuities
- * Souvenirs and gifts
- * Travel insurance (highly recommended)
- * Lunches/Dinners on your own

International Airfare:

You must reserve and purchase your own international airfare. You need to leave the United States one calendar day before the tour begins. We will greet you individually at Liszt Ferenc International Airport in Budapest, providing airport transfers to the hotel.

To **reserve your place** please contact:

Csilla Grauzer

Phone: 612-554-6227

Email: csillagrauzer@gmail.com

If you cancel your reservation after sending a deposit, and at least 30 days prior to departure date, you will receive a \$500 refund.

We maintain the right to cancel the tour if there are less than 4 participants. In this case, you will be given a full refund.

We are not responsible for any theft, accidents or insurance-related incidents while traveling together.

See you in Hungary!

Creative Cultural
Exchange 

Presents

CULINARY & VITICULTURE TOUR OF HUNGARY

*Discovering Living Traditions and
Hidden Treasures*



*We invite you on a unique and
personal tour of one of Eastern
Europe's most exciting countries.*

Sept. 29 - Okt. 9., 2016

