# **Culinary and Cultural Tour of Hungary**

Discovering Living Traditions and Hidden Treasures

### May 5 to 15, 2019 or September 1 to 11, 2019



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

**Hungary** has become a popular tourist destination thanks to its rich culture, cosmopolitan cities and sweeping natural landscapes. On this tour, we will focus on living local cultures and culinary traditions.

You will experience Hungary as few tourists do, getting to know the country as an insider, reaching beyond popular tourist destinations and exploring little known gems throughout the country.

Your guide, **Csilla Grauzer**, is a native Hungarian with years of experience introducing travelers to her homeland. She is 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 Itinerary\***

### **DAY 1:** Budapest

#### Welcome dinner and orientation at our hotel in the heart of Budapest

**Budapest** is one of the world's most romantic and entertaining capitals. Known as the "Queen of the Danube" and considered one of the most beautiful cities in Europe, much of Budapest is protected as an expansive UNESCO World Heritage site. Budapest is also well known as an art and culture hub and boasts some of the best restaurants and shops in the country.

Meal plan: dinner

### DAY 2: Budapest

### Full Day Guided Tour

Private Tour of Parliament Castle District: Matthias Church, Fisherman Bastion Hero's Square Vajdahunyad Castle Andrassy Avenue





#### chocoMe Atelier Tour and Tasting

Exclusive tour of showroom and factory, complete with chocolate tastings and shopping. ChocoMe is an award winning line of designer chocolate bars handcrafted in Budapest and sold all over the world.

Your guides have plenty of local suggestions for dinner, such as the popular and eclectic "ruin pubs." *Meal plan: breakfast, lunch* 

### DAY 3: Hollókő and Lázár Equestrian Park



### The Old Village of Hollókő

The village is a preserved traditional settlement and UNESCO World Heritage site that serves as a living example of rural Hungarian life in the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> centuries through folk activities, demonstrations, dance and food of the Palóc people. The visit includes snacks, and lunch is on your own in the village.

#### Lázár Equestrian Park and Resort

Lázár Equestrian Park is nestled amidst the Gödöllő hills with stunning views of the Domony Valley. Owned by horse racing world champions, Lázár is famous for its spectacular horse shows. Enjoy a traditional Hungarian dinner before heading back to Budapest for the night. *Meal plan: breakfast, dinner* 

### DAY 4: Budapest



#### **Opera House Tour**

Explore one of the most beautiful Neo-Renaissance buildings in Europe with a guided tour and private mini-concert (solo aria).

### Walking Tour

Jewish Quarter The Great Synagogue on Dohany Street (largest in Europe) St. Stephen Basilica (spectacular view from 300-foot high dome) Famous coffee houses and boutiques

### **Interactive Cooking Class**

Accompanied by regional wines and afternoon drive to the Buda-Etyek wine region, famous for its fresh and crisp white wines and celebrated sparkling Torley wine.



### The Gellert Baths (Optional afternoon)

Budapest is graced with many natural mineral springs known for their healing properties. The Gellert Baths are a series of pools, baths and saunas in the elegant Hotel Gellert, a perfect place to relax and thrive.

You may also choose to explore on your own or return to the hotel. We will have plenty of restaurant suggestions for dinner. *Meal plan: breakfast, lunch* 

### DAYS 5 & 6: Szekszard Wine Region and Boutique Castle Hotel

Step back in time and discover beauty of rural Hungary



Activities may include: Horse drawn carriage ride Visit to an organic farm Visit to artisan cheese maker Visit to traditional honey cake maker and museum Cooking demonstration "Palinka" distillery tour Visit village of Kalocsa, famous for its beautiful embroideries

Meal plan Day 5: breakfast, lunch or dinner Meal plan Day 6: breakfast, lunch or dinner

### DAYS 7 and 8: Tokaj Region



#### Vineyards and Wine Tasting

Travel north to immerse yourself in the patterned vineyards, farms and villages of the Tokaj wine region where wine has been produced for more than 1,000 years. Deep wine cellars were carved by hand into mostly volcanic rocks. The socio-cultural, ethnic and religious diversity of the people, together with the fame of Tokaji Aszu Wine, has contributed to the rich and diverse cultural heritage of the region.

Visit several wineries to learn about this UNESCO-listed region, meet winemakers and sample a variety of traditional, modern and experimental wines

#### Andrassy Rezidencia Wine & Spa Hotel

The hotel's VinoSense Spa offers high quality wellness and spa services such as a signature Tokaji wine bath. A spa package is included in the price of the tour.

Meal plan Day 7: breakfast, lunch or dinner Meal plan Day 8: breakfast, lunch or dinner

### DAY 9: Eger



#### Walking Tour

Learn about its history of Turkish occupation Climb an original minaret Stroll the streets of the Baroque town center

The Valley of Beautiful Women Local wine tasting including the celebrated Bull's Blood

Meal plan: breakfast, lunch or dinner

### DAY 10: Budapest



Spend the last full day revisiting your favorite spots and discovering new corners of the city. Your guides can provide suggestions. Options include: Freedom Bridge Pedestrian Mall Great Market Hall and more!

Optional: Visit the workshops and showrooms of contemporary Hungarian fashion designers

Meal plan: breakfast, dinner

DAY 11: Tour ends after breakfast

## **Tour Details**

### Price: \$3,500 per person Single supplement: \$700 Tour limited to 12 people PRIVATE TOURS available throughout the year

### \*Tour itinerary subject to change

#### Tour includes:

- ✓ 10 nights accommodation in 4/5 star hotels (double occupancy)
- ✓ 10 breakfasts
- ✓ 10 meals (lunch or dinner)
- $\checkmark$  Ground transportation in air-conditioned mini bus
- $\checkmark$  Local tours, guides, entrance fees and shows
- ✓ Spa voucher at Andrássy Castle Spa Hotel
- ✓ Airport transfers

#### Tour does not include:

- International airfare and luggage fees
- Alcoholic drinks, unless listed as part of activity
- Lunches/Dinners on your own
- Gratuities
- Souvenirs and gifts
- Optional excursions or extended travel
- Travel insurance (required)

#### **International Airfare:**

You must purchase your own international airfare and arrive on first day of tour (leave US day before). We will greet you at Liszt Ferenc International Airport in Budapest, providing airport transfer to hotel.

To reserve your place please contact: Csilla Grauzer, International Gourmet Inc. Phone: 612-554-6227 Email: csillagrauzer@gmail.com

\$1.000 per person deposit required to reserve space Full amount due 60 days before departure (March 5, 2019 or July 1, 2019) 50% refunded deposit for cancelations 60+ days before departure No refund for cancelations within 60 days of departure, no-shows or early return from trip We maintain the right to cancel the tour, in which case you will be given a full refund. Tour requires physical and mental independence and mobility. We are not responsible for any theft, accidents or insurance-related incidents while traveling.

# See you in Hungary!