



EXETER  
INTERNATIONAL

ESSENTIAL BUDAPEST





## ITINERARY AT A GLANCE:

DAY 1	ARRIVAL INTO BUDAPEST
DAY 2	BUDA
DAY 3	PEST
DAY 4	ETYEK
DAY 5	DEPART BUDAPEST

# WHY EXETER INTERNATIONAL?

## **Our Experience**

At Exeter International we have been creating memories and crafting custom-designed journeys for 27 years. We are a team of specialists committed to providing the best travel experiences in our destinations. Each of our experts has either travelled extensively on reconnaissance trips, or has lived in their area of expertise, giving us unparalleled first-hand knowledge. Because we focus on specific parts of the globe, we return to the same destinations many times, honing our experience over the years.

## **Knowledgeable Up-to-the-Minute Local Information**

We are best placed to give you advice about traveling to Europe and beyond; from logistics and new protocols in museums, hotels and restaurants in each country. We are here to expertly guide you through the new normal in travel.

## **Original Custom Programs, Meticulously Planned**

Our experts speak your language both literally and culturally. Our advice and recommendations are impartial, honest, and always have the individual in mind. We save valuable time in pre-trip research and focus on developing experiences that enrich and enhance your experience. Once on your journey you will have complete peace of mind with our local 24-hour contact person who is on hand to coordinate any changes in your program or help you in the case of any emergency.

## **Hand-Selected Guides**

We know that guides are one of the most important components of any travel experience. That is why we only use local experts who have a history of working with our guests and whom we know personally. We are extremely particular in selecting our guides and are confident that they will be one of the most memorable aspects of any of our trips.

## **Flexible Deposit**

We prepay deposits for services so we can access the top guides, the best drivers and maintain preferred partnerships with our partner hotels. Our deposit to confirm services is **25%** of the total trip cost. We want you to feel confident to book but also know that we are sensitive to current circumstances. Therefore, **15%** of this deposit is refundable up to **31 days** prior to departure if you are unable to travel for any reason. **10%** of the deposit will be retained as a future travel credit for up to 3 years. Future travel will be priced at prevailing rates. If it is determined that you are unable to travel within 31 days of the start of services, all deposits paid will be converted to a future travel credit, less nonrefundable funds committed on your behalf and tickets such as train or theater tickets. This credit may also be applied to our sister travel companies: [Almaz Journeys](#) and [Exeter Safari Company](#).

## **Financial Stability**

We are proud to be recognized by Allianz Insurance on their list of covered [travel suppliers](#) to give you additional peace of mind.

DAY 1



## ARRIVAL INTO BUDAPEST

Upon arrival into Budapest, you will be met and privately transferred to your hotel in central Budapest.

On the way to the hotel, you will pass by sights of historical significance, including St. Stephen's Basilica, a cross between Neo-Classical and Renaissance-style architecture completed in the late 19th century and one of Budapest's noteworthy landmarks.

Over the centuries, Budapest flourished as a crossroads where East meets West in the heart of Europe. Ancient cultures, such as the Magyars, the Mongols, and the Turks, have all left an indelible mark on this magical city. Buda and Pest, separated by the Danube River, are characterized by an assortment of monuments, elegant streets, wine taverns, coffee houses, and Turkish baths.

### EXETER SERVICES

Arrival Transfer

### HOTEL

Kempinski Corvinus



## DAY 2

### BUDAPEST

This morning, after meeting your driver and guide in the hotel lobby, drive along the Danube to see the imposing hills of Buda and catch a glimpse of the Budapest Royal Palace. If you like, today you can stop at the moving memorial of the Shoes on the Danube Promenade. Located near the parliament, this memorial honors the Jews who fell victim to the fascist militiamen during WWII.

Then drive across the lovely 19th-century Chain Bridge to the Budapest Funicular (vertical rail car), which will take you up the side of Buda's historic Royal Palace, the former Hapsburg palace during the 19th century and rebuilt in the Neo-Classical style after it was destroyed during World War II. Today the castle holds the Hungarian National Gallery, featuring the best of Hungarian art.

A stroll through the castle area, known as Varhegy, will take you to the Fisherman's Bastion for the most impressive views over Pest, across the Danube. Here you'll see the Matyas Church, a Neo-Gothic reconstruction dating from 1874 and in which many organ and choral concerts can be heard. The entire cobble-stoned area, lined with cafés and small shops, is perfect for spending the remaining afternoon. Also, in Varhegy is the excavated Medieval Synagogue, a Jewish historical sight dating to the 15th century.

Afterward, you will visit the Budapest Market Hall. Built in the 19th century, the covered market boasts soaring metal columns, high walkways, and beautiful produce shops. More than just a place where one can purchase some handcrafted and typical Hungarian souvenirs, it's a market where locals go to purchase their produce and meats—a meeting place for many and a place where you can enjoy authentic local flavor.

#### EXETER SERVICES

Vehicle, Driver, & Guide (6 Hours)

#### HOTEL

Kempinski Corvinus

## DAY 3



## BUDAPEST

Meet your guide and driver today in the hotel lobby for an exploration of the beauty of Central Pest. First, your guide will take you to the Jewish Quarter. The highlight is a visit to the Great Synagogue (Dohany Street Synagogue), the largest in Europe (and second largest in the world) - impressive in its Byzantine and Moorish style architecture. Today it's still in use for Budapest's Jewish Community. You can visit the Jewish Museum that is part of the synagogue, and afterwards, walk over to the Holocaust Memorial. The sculpture of a weeping willow designed in memory of the 600,000 Hungarian Jews who died under the Nazis in World War II.

### **Exeter International Extraordinary Experience**

Today you will have a behind-the-scenes tour of the Dohany Street Synagogue. A synagogue security official will accompany you on the tour. Highlights today include a visit to the Groom's Room behind the Ark of the Torah. Today this is a library of the synagogue. You'll also be able to see the old pulpit before heading to the Queen's Box on the upper circle, where you have the best view of the building. You'll see the back of the organ, the special Torahs and the Ark of the Torah's Curtains and the safe deposit box of the synagogue. Afterwards, enjoy a small snack of Kosher Flodni cake along with coffee, tea or water.

From here, you can drive to Hero's Square and see the Millennium Monument, designed to commemorate Hungary's Millennium Celebrations in 1896, though not completed until 1929. It marked Budapest's high point of its development in the history of the Austro-Hungarian monarchy.

Note: If you don't have an interest in Jewish sites, it's also possible to create this day around contemporary history, including the Terror House, or art and architecture, including the Fine Arts Museum and more.

Afterwards, spend the remainder of your afternoon at your leisure. This evening you will meet your driver for your transfer to the port for an evening boat tour.

## **Exeter International Extraordinary Experience**

Tonight your driver will take you to the boat launch for your private one-hour cruise along the Danube. You will be cruising on one of the finest private motorboats in the city and you will have the opportunity to see all the majestic buildings and bridges of Budapest at their best – lit by thousands of white lights.

### **EXETER SERVICES**

Vehicle, Driver, & Guide (5 Hours); Roundtrip Evening Transfers

### **HOTEL**

Kempinski Corvinus

## DAY 4



## ETYEK

You will drive to the closest wine region to Budapest and one of the country's youngest. The Etyek region is noted for its sparkling wine production and today your tour will focus on the area's small family-run wineries and food producers. The village is located only 30 minutes or so outside the city.

Today you will head to one of our favorite vintners – Kalna. This family-owned operation focuses on sparkling wines and whites. You'll learn all about the owner's passion project and taste the best from his vineyards. Your wine tasting will have accompaniments from local food producers, including fresh cheese, ham, vegetables and more.

Afterward, if you like, there may be time for lunch in the countryside, payable locally, before heading back to Budapest.

Return to the city this afternoon and enjoy your afternoon at leisure.

### EXETER SERVICES

Vehicle, Driver, & Guide (6 Hours)

### HOTEL

Kempinski Corvinus

DAY 5



## DEPART BUDAPEST

After checking out, meet your private car and driver for your transfer to the airport. *Cost of flight is not included in your program.*

### EXETER SERVICES

Departure Transfer

# WHAT'S INCLUDED



## Cost of the Program:

For two (2) Guests traveling together	January – March; November & December	From: \$3,550 per person
	April - October	From: \$3,650 per person
For Four (4) Guests traveling together	January – March; November & December	From: \$2,700 per person
	April - October	From: \$2,800 per person

**All pricing is per person and based on double occupancy. Airfare is not included. New Year's Eve is not included in the above pricing. Please enquire.**

## Accommodations

### Budapest

**Premium Deluxe Room for Four (4) nights at the Kempinski Corvinus;** tax and breakfast included.

The Kempinski Corvinus is located in the heart of Budapest. Built as the first luxury hotel in Budapest, the hotel's location puts you adjacent to the pedestrian area and just a short stroll from the Danube. The hotel features 351 guest rooms including 37 elegant suites.

Each room is generously sized and most have had a recent renovation and feature contemporary décor. Each features a Nespresso machine and Smart LED TV. The hotel offers a fully-equipped fitness center, spa and wellness center as well as a heated indoor pool. The hotel has two restaurants, one of which is Nobu, on site, as well as a buzzy bar, the Blue Fox. All rooms are nonsmoking.

**Premium Deluxe Room:** These rooms feature 300 – 375 square feet of space and offer views of Erzsebet Park and the peaceful side streets of the hotel. All rooms have been recently refreshed. Bedding is a choice of a king, a queen or two twin beds. The oversize bathroom features a separate tub and shower.

## Meals

No meals included, other than breakfast as described above. *Your guides will recommend restaurants that fit your exact needs daily.*

## Services

Private vehicle, driver and guide at your service as described. The timing for each day is noted in your program.

Exeter International's local offices are available for your assistance 24 hours per day while you are traveling. Our local staff may also assist you with restaurant reservations and purchasing of additional theater and museum tickets at your request.

## Transportation

Transportation is included as noted. Unless otherwise noted, all transfer service is with a driver only, not a guide. In general, drivers have limited English-speaking skills. Timing for each day is noted in your program.

## Guides

Hand chosen for their knowledge on local history, art, and architecture. Guides are at your disposal as noted in your itinerary.

## Tickets

All entrance tickets as described in the program.



## HOTEL OPTION: ARIA

**UPGRADE COST:** From \$75 per person, total for four nights

This fantastic boutique hotel is in a perfect location near St. Stephen's Basilica. It borders a lovely pedestrian street leading right to the Danube. Elegant Andrassy Avenue is a few steps away. The hotel features just 49 rooms and suites.

The hotel features a music theme that is interwoven into all aspects of the hotel, including the décor, room themes and more. The hotel has a fine dining restaurant, Stradivari, as well as a Jazz bar. Its best feature is its unique rooftop bar and lounge, SkyBar. The hotel's spacious wellness center includes a heated indoor pool, Jacuzzi, Finnish sauna and steam room. A small fitness center is also onsite.

All guests of the Aria have complimentary Wi-Fi, complimentary afternoon wine and cheese reception, complimentary bottled spring water in the rooms, turndown service with fine chocolates and access to the spa and multi-media library. The hotel is made up of four wings, each with its own style of décor. Overall, the décor is contemporary and makes use of vibrant colors. Rooms may either have a view of the city or the hotel's interior garden. Most of the luxurious Onyx bathrooms will offer a separate tub and shower, as well as a bidet toilet and heated towel racks. Some rooms have free standing soaking tubs.

**Luxury Room:** Luxury rooms offer approximately 325 - 365 square feet of space. Some include a private open-air balcony with view overlooking the beautiful Music Garden Courtyard. Bedding in one king.



## HOTEL OPTION: FOUR SEASONS

**UPGRADE COST GRESHAM ROOM:** From \$775 per person, total for four nights

**UPGRADE COST DANUBE VIEW ROOM:** From \$1175 per person, total for four nights

The Four Seasons Gresham Palace is the product of a painstaking 110 million Euro restoration and is the most opulent hotel in all of Budapest. The hotel is housed in a historic landmark palace on the banks of the Danube River and has lived a rich history entertaining celebrities as they pass through Budapest.

This is a destination hotel of historical significance and an art nouveau masterpiece. This 179-room hotel was badly damaged in WW II when the Germans detonated the Chain Bridge in front of the building. However, thanks to the work of numerous artists, masons, and talented metal workers, today guests may once again enjoy what has always been Budapest's most prestigious address. This is simply, without question, the finest hotel in the city.

All guestrooms offer very spacious accommodations, featuring marble bathrooms that include a deep soaking tub, separate glass-walled shower and large vanity mirror. Most offer the WC in a separate alcove with a third telephone. Rooms offer sumptuous down duvets and pillows.

**Gresham Room:** Gresham Rooms are located throughout the hotel and feature 409 to 506 square feet of space, allowing them to have a small sitting area. Rooms may feature one king bed or two twin beds. They offer views of the courtyard or the neighboring streets.

**Danube River-View Room:** These rooms vary widely in size from 355 – 450 square feet and all feature sweeping views of the Danube River, the Buda Hills, the Royal Buda Castle and the Chain Bridge. Some Danube Rooms also feature a step-out balcony. Danube rooms have either one king or two twin beds.



# EXETER TRAVEL INFO

## **BAGGAGE**

The vehicles reserved for your itinerary can accommodate up to two medium-sized suitcases per person. If you intend to travel with additional luggage, please advise your travel consultant so appropriate arrangements may be made. In general, we schedule a sedan for parties of two, a minivan for parties of three to four and a minibus for parties of five or more.

## **SIGHTSEEING**

Sightseeing arrangements have been made with your special interests in mind. Your drivers and guides are at your disposal as indicated in the itinerary. Within those time and mileage guidelines, you are free to modify your program as you please. Should you require additional time or mileage, the costs will be quoted on request and may be paid for locally in the local currency or U.S. Dollars.

Every effort has been made to confirm that scheduled sightseeing venues will be open at the time you plan to visit them. However, individual estates, museums, gardens and other points of interest can change their hours of operation at short notice. In the event that a particular attraction is closed on the day or time of your visit, your guide will offer alternative arrangements or rearrange your sightseeing to accommodate these unexpected events.

## **OPTIONAL EXPENSES**

Charges for extra meals, transport, sightseeing services or other optional additions to your established itinerary are your responsibility and must be paid locally in the local currency.

## **GRATUITIES**

Gratuities are not included in your tour price and are at your own discretion. Please see your final documents for tipping suggestions.

## **DINING WITH YOUR GUIDE**

On days when dinner and lunch costs have not been included in your itinerary (or in your tour cost), you may, at your discretion, choose to invite your guide to dine with your party. You are under no obligation to do so but, if you do extend such an invitation, the guide is your guest and you will be responsible for the cost of his/her meal.

## **REFUNDS**

We regret that refunds cannot be issued for arrangements confirmed on your itinerary but unused once your tour has begun.

## **INSURANCE**

Exeter International strongly recommends the purchase of travel insurance to protect your investment. You will find insurance costs noted on your invoice and insurance coverage information in your original booking packet.

## **PRICES AND ARRANGEMENTS**

The tour price includes planning, handling and operational charges. Rates are quoted in US Dollars on the current rate of exchange and tariff as of 2020. Exeter International reserves the right to increase tour prices to cover increased costs, tariffs and taxes, and to reflect fluctuations in foreign exchange markets. Devaluation of a foreign currency will be weighed against any tariff increases imposed. Exeter International does not breakdown costs involved in any Small Group or Individual Travel Program.

*All arrangements are subject to availability and modification if necessary.  
Prices are subject to change, if necessary, until paid in full.*

### **Exeter International**

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