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NAGYKÖVETSÉGE  
KONZULI RÉSZLEG**



**EMBASSY OF THE  
REPUBLIC OF HUNGARY  
CONSULAR SECTION**

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9:00 - 12:00**

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**OFFICE HOURS:  
MONDAY, WEDNESDAY,  
FRIDAY:  
9:00 a.m. - 12:00**

## **Visa requirements for entry and stay in the Republic of Hungary**

Ottawa, as of February 15, 2002

### **General rules and procedures**

As a basic principle, the Consular Offices of the Republic of Hungary issue three (3) basic categories of visas namely, transit, short-term (not exceeding 90 days) and long-term/residency (up to a full year) ones. Generally, all three basic categories of visas may permit their holders, upon request, for single, double or multiple entries into the territory of the Republic of Hungary. For exceptions, kindly refer to the specifications of various visa types below.

Almost exclusively, visa applications can only be submitted to an accredited Consular Office nearest to the registered place of residence. Therefore, visas cannot be obtained or renewed, further, a visitor status can neither be switched within the borders of the Republic of Hungary, nor at any official port of entry. A waiver of this rule might only be granted under truly exceptional circumstances, otherwise visitors shall be requested to leave for the country of their permanent residence, obtain an appropriate visa and thus request readmission into the territory of the Republic of Hungary. Accordingly, the proper indication of the underlying purpose for entry into and the desired length of stay in the Republic of Hungary are essential components of the visa application files to be submitted to the accredited Consular Offices of the Republic of Hungary worldwide.

In case of travel documents other than passports and regardless of the issuing authority (competent body of a state or international organization) all holders of Readmission Permits or Refugee Travel Documents are requested to submit a file for visa application if and when wishing to transit through or stay in the

territory of the Republic of Hungary for any underlying purpose and for any period of time.

As a general rule, furthermore, any file for requesting a visa for entry and/or stay in the territory of the Republic of Hungary is expected to contain, at a minimum, the following:

- a valid travel document, in the case of passports with a date of expiry extending 6 months beyond the planned date of departure from Hungary,
- a properly completed respective visa application form,
- 2 passport-size photographs (either black and white or color),
- visa fee either in cash or in the form of a Postal Money Order payable to the respective Consular Office (no cheques, credit card charges or any other forms of payment are honored).

All documents attached to any file for visa application are requested to be in the original. Neither copies, notarized or otherwise, nor any other substitutes shall be honored. Requests for a waiver of the above requirement are liable to be rejected without further consideration.

The visa fee is not refundable in case the application is declined, nor shall the applicant be reimbursed for any portion of the payment if a request for the termination of further consideration of the visa application is submitted prior to date the final decision is handed down.

As a general rule, files for visa application are preferred to be submitted in person or through a properly authorized representative, although in Canada they are also welcome to be forwarded to the accredited Consular Office via courier services or certified/registered mail. In such cases a postage-paid return envelope or the specified postage fee (in the form of a Postal Money Order payable to the respective Consular Office) is also to be attached to the file.

Regretfully, the lack of proper technical infrastructure and various other considerations do not permit the on-line processing of visa applications, although the respective application forms may be downloaded (both in Hungarian and in English) at

### **Rules governing Canadian nationals**

Currently, holders of a Canadian passport are permitted to enter and stay in the Republic of Hungary for a period not exceeding 90 days without a visa, although for longer stays of various underlying purposes (employment or gainful activity, educational pursuits, medical or rehabilitative treatment,

family unification etc.) they are to obtain one. For further elaboration on the long-term/residency visa requirements kindly refer to specifications below.

The short-term visa exemption regulation, however, might be subject to revision in the future. Under such circumstances the Canadian public shall be duly notified through proper means of information dissemination, further, appropriate measures shall be implemented to facilitate the prompt and effective issuance of the relevant documents. For regular updates on the evolving situation kindly refer to the Consular Offices accredited in Canada at the points of contact listed below. In the meantime, the Canadian public is warmly encouraged not to abandon any travel plans to the Republic of Hungary.

### **Transit visas**

Holders of passports from certain countries are required to obtain *airport transit* or *regular transit* visas when passing through the territory of the Republic of Hungary. For further specification of the countries affected, kindly refer to the Consular Offices accredited in Canada at the points of contact listed below. Upon request, airport transit visas may be issued for permitting single or double entries only into the territory of the Republic of Hungary, while regular transit visas may be validated for permitting single, double or multiple entries, as well.

An *airport transit visa* does not permit its holder to leave the premises of the International Terminal at Budapest Ferihegy Airport and is only valid for the duration of time that elapses between the changeover of flights, but never exceeding 24 hours. A travel itinerary (flight schedule) is to accompany the file for such visa applications. In case of requests for airport transit visas permitting double entries into the territory of the Republic of Hungary, 5 passport-size photographs (either black and white or color) and 2 properly completed entry/exit forms are to be attached.

As of January 1, 2002 *regular transit visas* permit their holders to take up to 5 days for the completion of passage through the territory of the Republic of Hungary. The file for such visa applications must be accompanied by a travel itinerary (flight schedule, reservation slip for other means of transportation or rental car stub, proof of hotel or other lodging arrangement), further, proof of valid visa or permission for entry as issued by the competent authorities of the country of final destination.

## **Short-term (90- days) visas**

Holders of passports from certain countries are required to obtain short-term visas when the expected length of stay within the territory of the Republic of Hungary does not exceed 90 days. For further specification of the countries affected, kindly refer to the Consular Offices accredited in Canada at the points of contact listed below. Generally, short-term visas carry a period of validity of 6 months subsequent to the date of issuance and, upon request, may permit single, double or multiple entries into the territory of the Republic of Hungary.

Upon granted initial admission into the territory of the Republic of Hungary, holders of short-term visas are routinely permitted to stay in the country for an uninterrupted period of up to 90 days. In case of multiple entries, however, the combined length of stay may not, under any circumstances, exceed 90 days, either. Furthermore, no stay is permitted beyond the expiry date of the visa, even if the straight or composite 90-day-limit has not been exceeded.

**The file for such visa applications may be requested to be accompanied by some or all of the following: an exact specification of the underlying purpose of the visit and the expected length of stay, proof of reservation for return air ticket or other means of transportation, proof of advance hotel or other lodging accommodation, letter of invitation from the person(s), institution(s), medical or educational establishment(s) to be visited, proof of insurance coverage, credible proof of availability of sufficient funds (bank account statements, cheques, travellers' cheques, credit cards, etc.) to cover incurred expenses for the entire duration of the visit.**

Should the expected length of uninterrupted stay exceed 30 days and the indicated arrangement for accommodation be other than a hotel, a guest house, or any publicly registered lodging facility, holders of short-term visas are also required to register their temporary addresses with the regional office of the Immigration and Citizenship Authority or with the local municipal government. Such requests for registration may also be filed at the above offices by the temporary host on behalf of the visitor.

### **Long-term (+90 days/-1 year) visas**

Holders of all passports issued by any authority (competent body of a state or international organization) are required to obtain long-term visas when the expected length of stay within the territory of the Republic of Hungary exceeds 90 days. Generally, long-term visas carry a period of validity of 12 months subsequent to the date of issuance and, as of January 1, 2002, routinely permit multiple entries into the territory of the Republic of Hungary within that timeframe.

The file for such visa applications may be requested to be accompanied by some or all of the following: an exact specification of the underlying purpose of the visit and the expected length of stay, proof of advance hotel reservation or apartment lease agreement, letter of invitation from the person(s), institution(s), medical or educational establishment(s) to be visited, proof of health insurance coverage, proof of availability of sufficient funds to cover incurred expenses for the entire duration of the visit, as well as

*for the underlying purpose of educational pursuits or professional training:* the original letter of acceptance, or the certificate attesting to the successful completion of admission requirements, or credible proof of enrollment for the next academic year as issued by the educational institution or research establishment,

*for the underlying purpose of medical or rehabilitative treatment:* the original letter of acceptance or certificate of admission as issued by the medical institution or rehabilitation center attesting to the fact that the prerequisites for the treatment are met in full,

*for the underlying purpose of family unification:* the original letter of invitation as authenticated by the regional office of the Immigration and Citizenship Authority or separate original documents attesting to the fact that the livelihood, proper accommodation, full health insurance coverage is secured for each family member,

*for the underlying purpose of long-term visit:* the original letter of invitation as issued by a Hungarian national, an institution or a foreigner in possession of a permanent residency permit in Hungary and authenticated by the regional office of the Immigration and Citizenship Authority,

*for the underlying purpose of employment or gainful activity:* the original work permit or an official employment authorization certificate as issued by the regional office of the Hungarian Employment Agency and/or original copy of the company's Title/Deed of Association and/or company certificate as issued

by the Court of Registration. The request for work permit or employment authorization certificate is to be filed with the regional office of the Hungarian Employment Agency by the prospective employer on behalf of the applicant prior to the submission of the file for long-term/residency visa. In the following cases, however, no work permit is required to be attached to the file for long-term/residency visa applications:

- installation of equipment, repair or service work as stipulated by a warranty or out of contractual obligations with the foreign supplier of the equipment,
- performance of executive duties at companies with qualified foreign ownership,
- performance of duties as a member of the Board of Supervisors of companies with qualified foreign ownership,
- performance of educational, scientific or artistic activities by individuals of international renown upon the invitation by institutions of higher learning, scientific research and culture,
- performance of ecclesiastical duties/services by members of the clergy at a church/parish registered in Hungary or at an institution thereof.

Upon granted initial admission into the territory of the Republic of Hungary, holders of long-term visas are routinely allowed to stay in the country, without the need for any additional (residency or other) permits, for up to a full year and in strict observance of the underlying purpose as properly specified at the time of the submission of the file for visa application. Such purposes may include full-time/part-time employment or other gainful activities, educational pursuits, medical or rehabilitative treatment, long-term visits, family unifications etc. However, should the temporary arrangement for accommodation be other than a hotel, a guest house, or any publicly registered lodging facility, holders of long-term visas are still required to register their temporary addresses with the regional office of the Immigration and Citizenship Authority or with the local municipal government within 30 days. Such requests for registration may also be filed at the above offices by the temporary host on behalf of the visitor.

The provisions of the previous paragraph notwithstanding, long-term/residency visas issued for the underlying purposes of seasonal employment or any humanitarian reasons only permit their holders for an uninterrupted stay not exceeding 180 days (6 months) within the 12-month validity period of the visa subsequent to the date of initial admission into the territory of the Republic of Hungary. The period of validity of a long-term/residency visa is also calculated as of the date of its issuance.

The period of validity of long-term/residency visas cannot be extended, therefore, should their holders wish to stay and carry on with the originally specified activity (e.g. permanent employment or educational pursuits) for more than one full year, an application for residency permit or permission to stay is to be filed with a regional office or the Headquarters of the Immigration and Citizenship Authority no later than 15 days prior to the expiry date of the long-term visa. Residency permits are routinely issued for a validity period of two (2) years and, upon request, may be extended for an additional two (2) years.

In case of requests for residency permits or permissions to stay for the underlying purposes of employment or other gainful activity, the permit may, upon request, be initially issued for a term of validity of a maximum of four (4) years.

In case of requests for residency permits or permissions to stay for the underlying purposes of educational pursuits or professional training, the permit is routinely issued for a term of validity of maximum one (1) full year and may be extended for an additional year upon each successful conclusion of the previous academic year until the program of studies or professional training is fully completed. The student is to furnish credible proof of enrollment for the following academic year prior to the submission of a request for the extension of the permission to stay.

### **Miscellaneous reminders**

A visa represents a prior conditional permission to enter the territory of the Republic of Hungary as issued by a competent Consular Office abroad. At the official ports of entry, however, the border guard/immigration officer possesses discretionary powers to determine whether all relevant criteria for entry and stay in the country are fully and duly met. Under specific circumstances the border guard/immigration officer is properly authorized to decline admission into the territory of the Republic of Hungary.

Visitors lawfully entering the territory of the Republic of Hungary without a visa or with a short-term (permitting a period of stay not exceeding 90 days) visa are not, however, eligible to submit requests for residency permits or permissions to stay in Hungary. Requests for such permits can only be filed within the Republic of Hungary with the Immigration and Citizenship Authority, and exclusively in possession of a long-term/residency visa properly specifying the underlying purpose of stay in the country. Otherwise visitors shall be requested to leave for the country of their permanent residence, obtain an appropriate visa and thus request readmission into the territory of the Republic of Hungary.

Visitors filing requests for residency permits or permissions to stay for a term of validity exceeding one (1) full year or for an extension of such a permit are to

attach a certificate of good health. The certificate of good health, attesting to the fact that the applicant is free of any contagious diseases endangering public health, may be obtained from the attending family physician or an accredited medical facility at the place of permanent residence, or within the republic of Hungary from the State Public Health and Medical Officers' Service in less than three (3) month prior to the submission of the request for a residency permit or permission to stay.

I (a) pet(s) accompany any visitors, a veterinary certificate must be presented as a precondition for initial admission into the territory of the Republic of Hungary. The certificate shall attest to the fact that the animal has been thoroughly examined, found free of contagious diseases, has been administered all the shots/vaccinations as provisioned for by relevant sanitary regulations, further, that there has been no recorded outbreak of any contagious diseases characteristic of the breed in the area of residence within three (3) months prior to the date of issuance of the certificate.

Should the expected length of uninterrupted stay exceed thirty (30) days and the temporary arrangement for accommodation be other than a hotel, a guest house, or any publicly registered lodging facility, visitors are required to register their temporary addresses with the regional office of the Immigration and Citizenship Authority or with the local municipal government. Such requests for registration may also be filed at the above offices by the temporary host on behalf of the visitor.

Visitors wishing to operate a motor vehicle within the territory of the Republic of Hungary must obtain a valid International Driver's License prior to the initial admission into the country.

As part of international efforts to curb cross-border money laundering, cash or other forms of legal tender in excess of HUF 1.000.000 (cca. CAD 6.000) must be declared to the customs and revenue official at the port of entry each time a request is made for admission into the territory of the Republic of Hungary. The form for declaration may be obtained from the same official at the port of entry.

Registered firearms (for the purposes of protection, hunting and other recreational pursuits) must be presented to the customs and revenue official at the port of entry and later be also registered with the local Police Station within the Republic of Hungary.

## **Visa fees**

**Visa fees for transit and staying in Hungary (less than 90 days):**  
Regardless of requested number of entries.

**Airport transit visa , transit visa, short-term visitor visa:** 60.-

**Long term visa**(more than 90 days):  
(work , study, health, employment, visit, family unification) 80.-

„K” page (special form) 40,-

Fee for the same day service: 20.-

*In case a refusal of the visa, the visa processing fee cannot be refunded!*

A **postage fee** of 7.00 CAD is to be born by the applicant or a prepaid return envelope (Purolator, Federal Express, Express) is to be supplied with the application

### **Consular Offices of the Republic of Hungary accredited in Canada:**

For **Ottawa, British Columbia, Alberta, Yukon, Northwest Territories:**

Consular Section of the Embassy of Hungary in **Ottawa**  
299 Waverly Street,  
Ottawa, Ontario,  
K2P 0V9  
Phone: (613) 230-2717/211  
Fax: (613) 230-8887

E-mail : [sysadmin@huembott.org](mailto:sysadmin@huembott.org)

From **Ontario, Manitoba and Saskatchewan:**

Consulate General in **Toronto:**  
121 Bloor Str. E, S: 1115,  
M4W 3M5  
Phone: (416) 923-8981  
Fax: (416) 923-2732  
E-mail: [hungarian.consulate@bellnet.ca](mailto:hungarian.consulate@bellnet.ca)

For **Quebec, Newfoundland, Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick:**

Consulate General in **Montreal:**  
1200 McGill College Ave, S: 1715  
H3B 4G7  
Phone: (514) 393-1048  
Fax: (514) 393-8226  
E-mail: [huconmtr2@bellnet.ca](mailto:huconmtr2@bellnet.ca)

**Honorary Consular Offices of the Republic of Hungary accredited in Canada:**

Honorary Consulate General in Calgary  
Honorary Consul General: Béla Balázs  
1700-96th Avenue S. W. Calgary, Alberta, T2V 5E5  
Phone: (403) 258-0052  
Fax: (403) 262-8343  
E-mail: [consul@iul.net](mailto:consul@iul.net)

Honorary Consulate in Calgary

Honorary Vice-Consul: Tibor W. Osvath  
 #2910-715 -5<sup>th</sup> Avenue S.W.  
 Calgary, AB T2P 2X6  
 Phone: (403) 264-8389  
 Fax: (403) 264-8399  
 E-mail: tosvath@raeandcompany.com

Honorary Consulate General in Vancouver

Honorary Consul General: András Molnár  
 #306-1770 W. 7th Ave., Vancouver, B.C. V6J 4Y6  
 Phone: (604) 730-7321  
 FAX: (604) 730-7339

Honorary Consulate in Vancouver

Honorary Vice-Consul: Brigitte A. Farkas  
 Suite 201, 1039 Richards St. Vancouver, B. C. V6B 3E4  
 Phone: (604) 681-5936  
 Fax: (604) 681-5930

**Points of contact within the Republic of Hungary**

**Metropolitan Court of Justice**

H-1055 Budapest  
 Markó u. 27.  
 Phone: (36-1) 332-5550  
 Fax: (36-1) 311-8473

**Immigration and Citizenship Authority**

Customer Service  
 Budapest XI. Budafoki út 60.  
 Phone: (36-1) 463-9102  
 Fax: (36-1) 463-9195

**Office hours:**

Tuesday 12.30 - 16.00  
 Wednesday 08.30 - 16.00  
 Thursday 08.30 - 12.00



**Internal Revenue Service**

H-1054 Budapest  
 Széchenyi u. 2.  
 Phone: (36-1) 428 – 5100

**Hungarian Automobile Association**

H-1024 Budapest  
 Rommer Flóris u. 4/A  
 Mailing address: H-1277 Budapest 23 P. O. Box 1.  
 Phone: (36-1) 212-2938  
 Fax: (36-1) 212-5762  
 E-mail: [autoklub@euroweb.hu](mailto:autoklub@euroweb.hu)

**National Social Security Fund**

H-1139 Budapest  
 Váci u. 73/a  
 Mailing address: H-1565 Budapest, P.O. Box 18.  
 Phone: (36-1) 350-2001  
 Fax: (36-1) 350-8656  
 Internet: [www.oep.hu](http://www.oep.hu)

**Hungarian Bar Association**

H-1054 Budapest  
 Szemere u. 8.  
 Phone: (36-1) 311-9800  
 Fax: (36-1) 311-7867

**MALÉV Hungarian Airlines Customer Service (day and night)**

Phone: (36-1) 296-9696  
 Phone: (36-20) 344-0318  
 E-mail: [malev@malev.hu](mailto:malev@malev.hu)  
 Internet: [www.malev.hu](http://www.malev.hu)

**Deportation Center at Budapest Ferihegy International Airport**

Phone: (36-1) 296-8907

**Hungarian Red Cross**

Budapest, Arany J. u. 31. P.O. Box 121  
 Phone: (36-1) 331-3950  
 Fax: (36-1) 353 1388  
 Internet: [www.voroskereszt.hu](http://www.voroskereszt.hu)

