

BERNE UNION SPRING MEETING 2020 – BUDAPEST, HUNGARY

11th – 14th May 2020

MEETING VENUE & HOTEL INFORMATION

Meeting Venue:

Hotel InterContinental Budapest *****

**InterContinental Budapest
Apaczai Csere Janos utca 12-14.,
1052 Budapest,
Hungary**

For room booking queries please contact the Hotel's reservation department by e-mail: budapest.res@ihg.com.



InterContinental Budapest is located on the most beautiful riverbank walkway in Budapest called the Danube Promenade, a UNESCO world heritage site. In close vicinity you may find some of the most significant architectural sights of Budapest such as the Széchenyi Chain Bridge, the Parliament and the Buda Castle. Many charming pedestrian streets, important transport hubs, numerous popular restaurants and countless hidden pearls of the city are located in convenient distance from the hotel, waiting for you to explore them.

Room Type	Cost single / Double Occupancy in EUR / night
Superior Room	229 / 249
Superior Danube View Room	284 / 304

These prices include:

WiFi access, access to the Wellness area (heated indoor pool, steam cabin, sauna), use of the Gym and buffet breakfast

Extra nights in Hotel InterContinental Budapest:

EXIM have kindly negotiated these prices for 3 days before and after the meeting in case you would like to extend your stay in Budapest for a short holiday or business meeting opportunities. These Prices are therefore available Friday 08th through until Sunday 17th May based on Hotel availability.

Reservation Name Changes:

Amendments to names are accepted 3 days prior the arrival. In this case, please contact directly the Hotel's reservation department by e-mail: budapest.res@ihg.com.

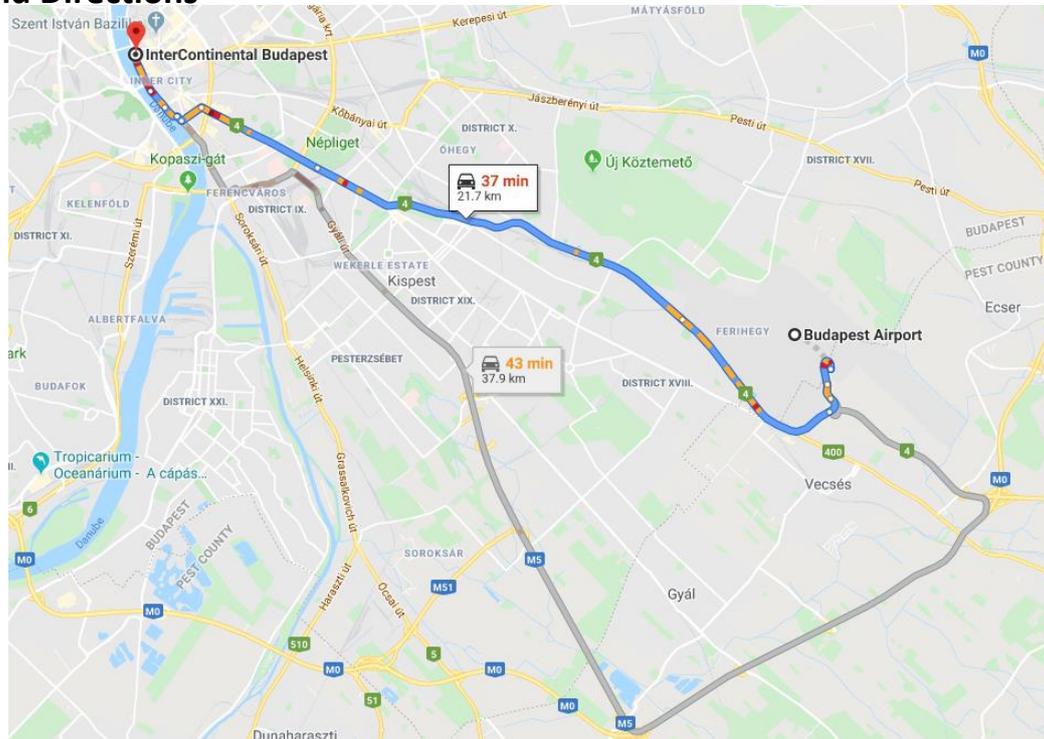
Cancellation terms:

Hotel InterContinental Budapest hold a strict non-refundable policy for all bookings. Amendments to names are accepted, but date changes, no shows and cancellations are non-refundable from the time of booking.

If your flight arrives in the early hours of the morning, you will need to book the hotel room from the night before, to avoid any disappointment. Upon booking your hotel room, please indicate your estimated arrival time.

Check in is at 3pm and check out is at 10am. If any requirements for a late check out are needed please ask the reception desk and they will accommodate you where possible. Surcharge for late check-out will apply.

Location and Directions



How to get to Hotel InterContinental Budapest from Liszt Ferenc International Airport?

1. Official Airport Taxi service by Főtaxi

Főtaxi, the taxi company with the longest traditions (founded 1913) in Hungary transports passengers between the terminals and Budapest. Főtaxi's several hundred cars, trained and experienced colleagues ensure a safe basis to satisfy passengers' needs at a high standard.

Taxi drivers speaking at least one foreign language are in service with large, category 'A' cars younger than five years. **All cars are equipped with a POS terminal, therefore credit cards are also accepted. Reservations can be made in person at the Főtaxi booths located at the exits at Terminals 2A and 2B. At the taxi rank in front of the stands, taxis are parking continuously waiting for passengers.**

In Hungary the Taxi Decree is regulating the price of the taxis at a fixed tariff of 300 HUF/Km (0.95 EUR/Km) in addition to the one-off basic fee of 700 HUF (2.2 EUR) and waiting fee. A ride to Hotel InterContinental Budapest should typically cost around 8500 HUF (26 EUR) depending on traffic conditions.

2. Hotel InterContinental Budapest Airport Service

Hotel Limousine Service (Mercedes E-class) is available for EUR 65/ way from or to the airport upon request and needs to be pre-booked.

Visa Information

General information for entering Hungary

Hungary joined the Schengen Area on 21 December 2007. From that time visas and residence permits issued by one of the Schengen Member States are valid also for Hungary, and visas/residence permits issued by Hungarian authorities are - as a general rule - also valid for the entire Schengen Area.

For visa information, and to check if you need a visa to visit Hungary, please check here:

<https://konzulizsolgalat.kormany.hu/visa-waiver-agreements>

For invitation letters, please contact koczka.balazs@exim.hu.

Temperature:

Average temperature in May: Average low: 11°C; Average high: 21°C

Currency: Hungarian Forint (HUF) only, however credit and debit cards are accepted in most places.

Electricity: In Hungary the power plugs and sockets are of type C and F. The standard voltage is 230 V and the standard frequency is 50 Hz. Therefore, if your plug is different, we recommend you travel with an adaptor.

General Tourist Information

Buda Castle & Castle Hill

Towering over the Danube, Castle Hill contains many of Budapest's most important medieval monuments and museums. The most spectacular of these impressive structures is the 18th-century Buda Castle, a massive 200-room palace that replaced a 13th-century castle built to protect the stronghold from Mongol and Tartar attacks. Although badly damaged in World War II, much of the exterior has been restored, and the restored portions of the interior house museums, including the Hungarian National Gallery in the main wing. In the south wing, the Budapest History Museum occupies four floors.

In front of the castle overlooking the Danube stands a bronze equestrian statue of Prince Eugene of Savoy, a hero of Turkish attacks on the city. Castle Hill is worth exploring for its medieval lanes and its Romanesque, Gothic, and Baroque architecture. This entire historic complex is a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Like much of the city, Buda Castle is spectacularly illuminated at night, and the castle courtyards remain open 24 hours a day. You can reach the castle on the restored historic Castle Funicular Railway, which departs from the Buda end of the Chain Bridge.



Fisherman's Bastion



Overlooking the Danube, where the fishermen's guild built their defense walls in the Middle Ages, is the impressive Fisherman's Bastion. The Neo-Romanesque complex of towers, courtyards, colonnades, and walls was built between 1895 and 1902. It's one of the most popular points in the city for tourists, with its views over the city and the Danube. In the south courtyard stands a bronze equestrian statue of St. Stephen, the first King of Hungary. The reliefs on the sides of the base depict scenes from Stephen's life.

Matthias Church (Church of Our Lady)

Matthias Church, also known as The Church of Our Lady, is a prominent landmark on Castle Hill. It was completed in 1269, and the magnificent south doorway, with its relief depicting the Death of Mary, was added in the 1300s. In the Turkish occupation (1541-1699), it was used as a mosque and later renovated in the Baroque style. It has been the scene of several historic events, including the coronation of King Charles I of Hungary in 1309 and the coronation of Emperor Franz Joseph I of Austria and his consort Elisabeth (Sissy) as rulers of Hungary. It was for this event that Franz Liszt composed his coronation mass. There are free organ concerts here on Sunday evenings.



St. Stephen's Basilica



St. Stephen's Basilica of Budapest is also a cathedral and is a popular attraction for its impressive architecture, the beauty of its interior, and the panoramic views from its dome. Dedicated to St. Stephen, Hungary's holy king who was also the founder of the Hungarian state, it was begun in 1851, but after several construction setbacks - including the collapse of its unfinished dome - it was not dedicated until 1905. The roof, towers, and external walls were badly damaged in World War II, and the church's precious mosaics fell from the walls. But these were successfully restored to their original place and are the highlight of the richly decorated interior. The five-part Venetian mosaic is in the sanctuary and represents the allegories of the mass. The most precious holy relic is displayed under glass in the chapel to the left of the high altar, the mummified right hand of the church's patron saint, the first king of Hungary.

Two elevators carry visitors into the cupola (or you can climb the 364 steps) for sweeping 360-degree views over the city and the Danube.

Heroes' Square and the Millennium Monument

The impressive Heroes' Square (Hősök tere) was largely the work of architect Albert Schickedanz, who was also responsible for the huge Museum of Fine Arts that flanks this large open space. Highlights include the Millennium Monument, a 36-meter column crowned by a figure of the Archangel Gabriel and unveiled in the late 19th century. Around the plinth can be seen a group of bronze horsemen representing the conquering Magyar Prince Árpád and six of his fellow warriors. On either side of the column, colonnades extend in a semi-circle, and between the individual pillars stand statues of Hungarian rulers. In front of the Millennium Monument stands a memorial to the Unknown Soldier.



Thermal Baths of Budapest



Budapest is called the city of baths for a good reason, you should visit at least one of them during your stay. Spend a couple hours in the hot water relaxing, play some chess in the water using a floating styrofoam block to support the chessboard, or simply switch between pools all day long – these are a casual luxuries that every Hungarian is familiar with. There are many opportunities to treat yourself in the thermal water including the Rudas bath, the Széchenyi bath and the Palatinus beach.

Hungarian Cuisine - Taste of Hungary

Goulash Soup

The simple shepherd's dish is regarded as one of Hungary's most recognizable culinary staples due to the reform efforts of Joseph II in the 18th century. This hearty soup that is often cooked in a pot over an open fire contains root vegetables, paprika and cubes of delicious beef. It simply asks to be made in large batches since sharing the experience with friends and family is an integral part of Hungarian culture.





Ask any Hungarian: no other food is associated more with summer and especially spending time on the beach than lángos. This circle of fried dough measuring around 20-30 centimeters in diameter is the original Hungarian street food, most often consumed spread with garlic oil, sour cream & grated cheese as toppings or even plain, only with a pinch of salt on top.

Dobos Torte

This layered cake was invented by József Dobos C., a 19th century confectioner with an intent to create a cake that lasts long despite the lack of cooling techniques available at the time. The Dobos torte was first introduced in 1884 and its innovative feature was the sweet chocolate buttercream filling thanks to which this elegantly minimalistic cake could reach the furthest corners of Europe in carts filled with salted ice.



Other Information

Budapest, Hungary

Climate: Budapest, situated in the heart of Central Europe, is characterised by continental weather conditions – visitors should prepare for hot summers and cold winters. May is the end of spring in Hungary, average daily temperature range from 15°C- 25°C.

Advised Clothing:

During the conference the dress code will be Smart / Business

During the Spring Meeting dinner the dress code will be Smart / Business

During the Farewell dinner the dress code will be Smart / Casual.

Currency: Hungary's currency is Hungarian Forint (HUF). Foreign currencies can be exchanged at the hotel (only for hotel guests) where you can find an ATM as well, however credit and debit cards are accepted in most places.

Credit & Debit cards: Mastercard, Visa are widely accepted. American express has limitation.

Banking Hours: Mon-Thu: 08:00-16:00; Fri: 08:00 - 15:00

Tipping: Tipping for services in restaurants is not obligatory but often a standard practice and is generally 5-10%.

Time: Hungary's Standard Time is 1 hour ahead of Greenwich Mean Time (GMT+1).

Budapest Tourist Information: <https://www.budapestinfo.hu/budapest>

Weather Information: <https://www.accuweather.com/en/hu/hungary-weather>

Contact Information:

For Berne Union Secretariat please contact Nicole Cherry

+442078411118

ncherry@berneunion.org

For EXIM please contact Gábor Szócs

+36 1 3749-145

szocs.gabor@exim.hu