

Travel Information for the
2026 IEEE International Leadership Conference (ILC)

Evolution: Advancing Leadership Across Generations

Budapest, Hungary | 3 - 4 October 2026

Conference website: <https://ieeilc.org/>

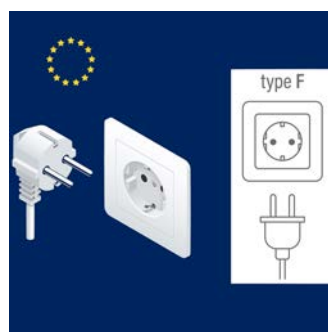
Welcome to Budapest



Budapest – view of the Danube and Hungarian Parliament

Budapest, Hungary's vibrant capital, beautifully merges its rich history with modernity. Situated along the scenic Danube River, Budapest is known for its stunning architecture, cultural heritage, and lively atmosphere. It is the tenth-largest city in the EU by population within city limits and the second-largest city on the Danube River.

- **Population:** Budapest 1,752,286; metropolitan area 3,303,786 (33% of the population of Hungary).
- **Currency:** Hungarian Forint (HUF). Approximate rates: 1 EUR ≈ 358 HUF, 1 USD ≈ 307 HUF (as of May 2026; please check current rates closer to the conference).
- **Time zone:** Central European Summer Time (CEST = GMT/UTC + 2) during the conference. Time change to CET/winter time takes place on 25 October 2026, after the conference.
- **Telephone:** Hungary calling prefix: +36.
- **Units of measure:** Metric system.
- **Electricity:** Electrical sockets in Hungary are the European standard "Type C" Europlug and the "Type E" / "Type F" Schuko. Standard voltage is 230 V, frequency 50 Hz.



Electrical socket – Type F (Schuko)

Venue and Accommodation: InterContinental Budapest



InterContinental Budapest Hotel by IHG

The InterContinental Budapest Hotel by IHG will be the main venue for the 2026 IEEE International Leadership Conference. Situated right on the banks of the Danube River, this hotel is centrally located and offers spectacular views of the river and the Buda Castle. The hotel is within walking distance of many of Budapest's most iconic landmarks.

Address and Contact

InterContinental Budapest Hotel by IHG

Apáczai Csere János utca 12-14, 1052 Budapest, Hungary

Phone: +36 1 327 6333 (Reservations) | +36 1 327 6378

Maps link : <https://maps.app.goo.gl/k2ZCmVpQTGMHJatT9>

Hotel website: www.budapest.intercontinental.com

Conference venue and travel page: <https://ieeailc.org/venue-travel/>

Visa Information

Hungary is a member of the European Union and the Schengen Area. Depending on your nationality, you may need a Schengen visa to enter Hungary. Please verify visa requirements with your local Hungarian embassy or consulate well in advance of your travel.

For official conference visa guidance, please refer to: <https://ieeailc.org/venue-travel/visa-information/>

Getting to Budapest from the Airport to the City Center

Budapest is served by Liszt Ferenc International Airport (BUD), located approximately 16 km (10 miles) southeast of the city center. There are several ways to reach downtown Budapest:

1. **Recommended – miniBUD Airport Shuttle:** miniBUD is the official airport shuttle service provider for Budapest Airport, offering convenient door-to-door transfers. Each passenger is allowed one large and one small piece of hand baggage. Travel time is typically 30–40 minutes, with free Wi-Fi on board. Tickets are available at the miniBUD offices in the baggage pick-up area or outside at arrivals. Online booking is recommended: <https://www.minibud.hu/>.



miniBUD logo

2. **Public Transport:** The 100E Airport Shuttle Bus is a direct connection from the airport to the city center, running every 30 minutes. The ticket costs about 2,200 HUF (approximately 6 EUR), and the trip takes around 40–45 minutes. Alternatively, take Bus 200E to the nearest metro station (Kőbánya-Kispest), then transfer to Metro Line 3 (blue line) for a fast connection to central Budapest.
3. **Taxi:** Taxis are available at the designated taxi stands outside the airport terminal. A ride to the city center typically costs between 12,000–15,000 HUF (approximately 33–42 EUR) and takes about 30–40 minutes, depending on traffic.
4. **Private Shuttle / Hotel Transfer:** Many hotels offer private airport shuttle services that can be arranged in advance. Please check with your hotel for availability and pricing.

Budapest City Public Transport

From the InterContinental Budapest, guests can easily access the city's extensive public transport network. The Vigadó tér bus stop is located directly next to the hotel, where several bus routes serve the surrounding areas. The M1 metro line (yellow line) station at Vörösmarty tér is a short walk away, providing quick access to other parts of the city.

Public transport in Budapest: <https://bkk.hu/en/travel-information/>

Subway (Metro)

Budapest has four subway lines:

- **M1 (yellow line, Millennium Underground):** runs under Andrassy Avenue between Vörösmarty tér and Mexikói út.
- **M2 (red line):** runs east–west between Déli pályaudvar and Örs vezér tere.
- **M3 (blue line):** runs north–south between Újpest-Központ and Kőbánya-Kispest.
- **M4 (green line):** runs between Kelenföldi pályaudvar and Keleti pályaudvar.

Trams, Trolley Buses and Buses

Budapest has a vast network of yellow streetcars (trams). Useful routes include lines 2, 4, 6, 19 and 49. Trolley bus service is available on 13 routes in Pest. Buses cover the rest of the city extensively, with over 200 routes and express buses identified by red number signs.

Daytime transport
 04:30–23:50

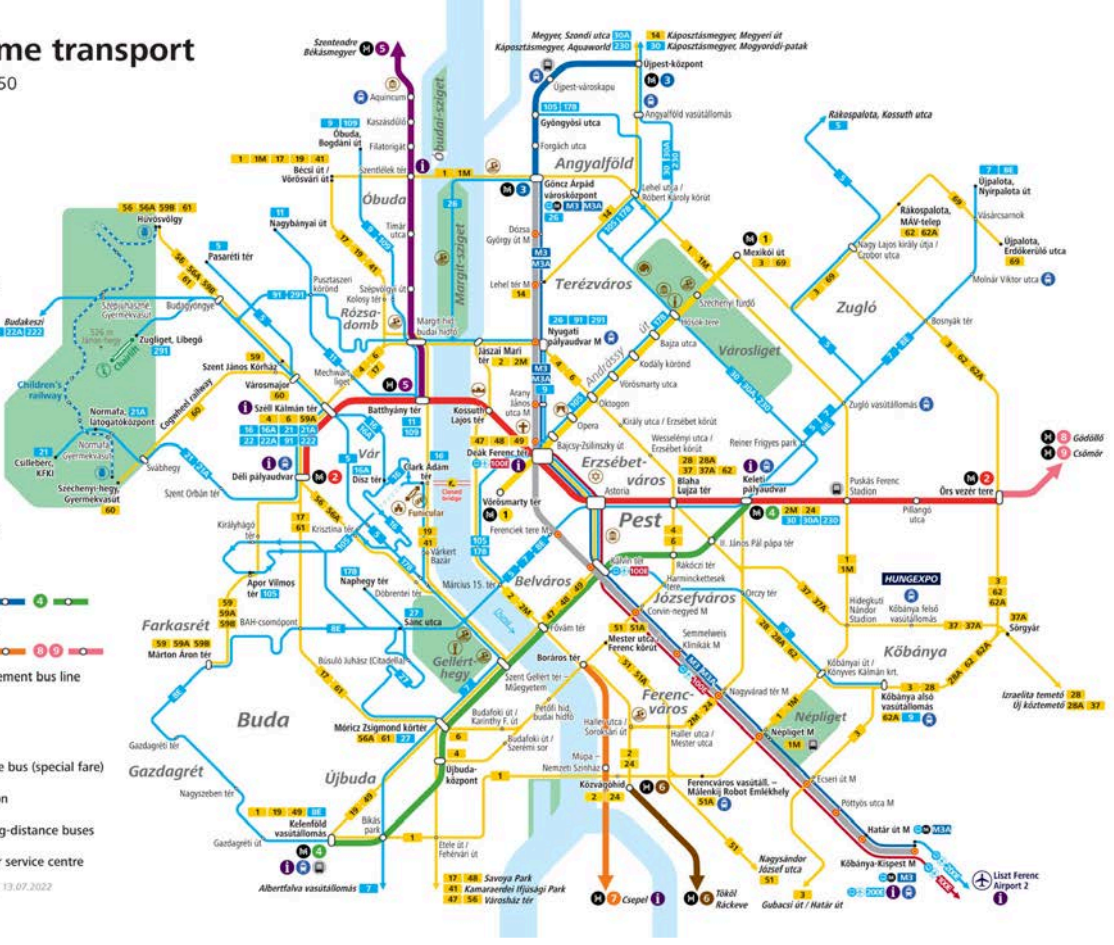
- Parliament
- Buda Castle
- Citadel, Statue of Liberty
- Millennium Monument
- Zoo
- Museum
- Great Market Hall
- St. Stephen's Basilica
- Dohány street Synagogue
- Thermal Bath

Attention!
 Transport services are subject to change. Please check the information boards displayed at the stops or visit our website at bkk.hu.

Attention!
 The Chain Bridge is under renovation from 2021 to 2023. For more information please visit our website at bkk.hu.

- Metro lines
- Suburban railway lines
- Metro replacement bus line
- Tram line
- Key bus line
- Airport shuttle bus (special fare)
- Railway station
- Station of long-distance buses
- BKK customer service centre

BKK: Tájékoztató | Data current as of: 13.07.2022



Budapest public transport map



Iconic yellow Budapest tram

BudapestGO Public Transport App



BudapestGO – the official BKK app

The BudapestGO app provides ticket purchase, journey planning, and real-time traffic information in one easy-to-use application. Benefits include:

- Buy Budapest digital single tickets, time-based tickets and 24/72-hour travel cards.
- Tickets stored on your mobile home screen, all you need is your phone and a mobile connection.
- Valid on all BKK lines: metro, buses, trams, trolley buses, the Cogwheel Railway and suburban HÉV lines (within city limits).
- You can also buy your Airport Shuttle Bus 100E single ticket through the app. Note: bus 100E is only valid with this dedicated airport ticket.
- Real-time journey planning and route recommendations.
- Plan trips with the MOL Bubi public bike-sharing system.

Important: validate paper tickets at the orange or red ticket-punching machines. Inspectors may ask to see your ticket, and fines apply for invalid tickets.

Taxis and Ride-Sharing

Taxis are easily available at the hotel, and ride-sharing services such as Bolt and Uber operate in Budapest for convenient rides around the city.

Bolt: <https://bolt.eu/en/cities/budapest/>

Uber: <https://www.uber.com/hu/en/>

Dress Code

The dress code for the IEEE International Leadership Conference is business / business casual.

Climate Overview

October in Budapest brings mild autumn weather, with daytime temperatures typically ranging between 10°C and 17°C (50°F to 63°F). Mornings and evenings can be noticeably cooler, often dropping to 5–8°C (41–46°F). Rain is possible, and the weather can vary between sunny days and overcast, drizzly periods.

For real-time weather updates and forecasts, check: [AccuWeather Budapest Forecast](#)

What to pack:

- A warm jacket or coat for cool mornings and evenings.
- Layers (sweaters, long-sleeved shirts) to adapt to changing temperatures.
- Comfortable walking shoes, Budapest is best explored on foot.
- An umbrella or raincoat, as autumn can bring occasional showers.
- A scarf for added comfort in the evenings.

Currency and Payments

Currency: The official currency of Hungary is the Hungarian Forint (HUF). While many places accept credit cards (Visa, MasterCard, etc.), it is recommended to carry some cash for smaller purchases, especially in markets and traditional establishments.

Currency Exchange: Currency exchange services are available at the airport, major hotels and exchange offices throughout the city. Rates at the airport may not be the most favorable. ATMs are widely available and accept most international debit/credit cards.

Tipping: Tipping is customary in Hungary, typically around 10–15% in restaurants if service is not already included in the bill.

Walking to Key Attractions

Many of Budapest's major attractions, including St. Stephen's Basilica, Váci Street (for shopping) and Fisherman's Bastion are within walking distance of the hotel. The Parliament Building and Buda Castle are just across the river, easily reached by a pleasant walk or a short tram ride.



Hungarian Parliament Building

Budapest Card and Sightseeing

Budapest Card

The Budapest Card is the official city card. Purchase includes free use of all Budapest public transportation day and night, plus discounts at many attractions. The Budapest Card is available in 24, 48, 72, 96 and 120-hour versions, with 30+ free services included.

Budapest Card Plus

In addition to the 30+ free services in the standard Budapest Card, the Plus version includes an airport transfer, a Danube cruise, admission to Matthias Church, a ride on the Buda Castle Funicular Railway, and a chimney cake from Molnár's. Cards can be purchased in advance and collected at the airport upon arrival.

Hop On Hop Off

Budapest sightseeing buses present the main attractions of the Hungarian capital with audio guides available in 22 languages, on open-top or roofed double-decker buses. You can hop on and off at any of the 43 stops. Standard, Full and Special tickets are available for 48 or 72 hours, with some options including a nighttime Danube cruise.

Must-See Attractions



Buda Castle & Castle



Hill Fisherman's Bastion

1. **Buda Castle & Castle Hill:** A UNESCO World Heritage Site, Buda Castle offers sweeping views over the city, with historical museums and galleries such as the Hungarian National Gallery and the Budapest History Museum.
2. **Hungarian Parliament Building:** One of the largest parliament buildings in Europe, located along the Danube. Guided tours offer insight into Hungary's history and government.
3. **Széchenyi Thermal Bath:** Budapest is famous for its thermal baths, and Széchenyi is one of the largest and most well-known. It offers indoor and outdoor pools, perfect to relax after a day at the conference.
4. **Fisherman's Bastion:** A neo-Romanesque lookout tower with panoramic views over the city and the Danube. Ideal for photos.
5. **St. Stephen's Basilica:** A neoclassical masterpiece and home to the mummified hand of St. Stephen, Hungary's first king. Great views from the dome.
6. **Ruin Pubs:** A unique Budapest experience, bars set in abandoned buildings in the Jewish Quarter, with eclectic decor, live music and a great social atmosphere.

- 7. Heroes' Square and City Park (Városliget):** Heroes' Square features the Millennium Monument honoring Hungary's historical leaders. The adjacent City Park includes Széchenyi Thermal Bath, Vajdahunyad Castle, and the Budapest Zoo and Botanical Garden.
- 8. The Great Synagogue (Dohány Street):** The largest synagogue in Europe and one of the most significant Jewish buildings in the world. The complex includes the Jewish Museum, Holocaust Memorial and a beautiful garden.



Széchenyi Thermal Bath



St. Stephen's Basilica

Nearby Historic Areas and Day Trips

For those with extra time, Budapest is surrounded by charming towns rich in history and tradition. A few notable destinations include:

- 9. Szentendre:** Just 20 km north of Budapest, this picturesque town is known for its vibrant arts scene, cobble streets, galleries and museums (including the Marzipan Museum and Open-Air Ethnographic Museum).
- 10. Visegrád:** Set on a bend of the Danube, home to Visegrád Castle, once the residence of Hungarian kings. Beautiful river-valley views and great hiking opportunities.
- 11. Esztergom:** About 50 km from Budapest, one of Hungary's most important religious sites and home to Esztergom Basilica, the largest church in Hungary.



Visegrád & Danube view



Esztergom Basilica

Dining in Budapest



Traditional Hungarian cuisine

Budapest is a gastronomic hub offering both traditional Hungarian cuisine and international dining. Some must-try dishes include:

- **Gulyás (Goulash):** a Hungarian classic made with beef, vegetables and paprika, served as a soup or stew.
- **Lángos:** deep-fried dough topped with sour cream, cheese or garlic, a popular street food.
- **Kürtőskalács (Chimney Cake):** a sweet pastry cooked over an open fire, often enjoyed with cinnamon and sugar.

For fine dining, Budapest boasts several Michelin-starred restaurants, while iconic cafes such as the New York Café offer a taste of the city's historical coffeehouse culture.

Shopping and Souvenirs

- **Váci Street:** a famous pedestrian shopping street with shops, restaurants and cafes.
- **Great Market Hall:** the place to find local products such as Hungarian paprika, wines and handcrafted goods.
- **Andrássy Avenue:** an elegant avenue lined with high-end boutiques and designer stores.

Conclusion

Budapest is a city full of history, culture and excitement, offering a unique mix of experiences for conference attendees. Whether you are exploring iconic landmarks, enjoying delicious Hungarian food, or simply wandering the city's charming streets, Budapest will leave a lasting impression. We look forward to welcoming you to the **2026 IEEE International Leadership Conference (ILC) on 3–4 October 2026!**

For the latest information, please check the conference website: <https://ieeailc.org/>