

# 2017 Hungary Packing Guide

## RULE OF THUMB: PACK ONLY WHAT YOU CAN CARRY



**LUGGAGE LIMIT:** For these flights to Hungary, the airlines normally allow only 1 checked bag per person, the maximum dimensions of which are 35.5" x 29.5" x 16", including the handle, pockets and wheels and does not exceed 50 pounds. On humanitarian fares, you may be able to check 2 or more bags. **Don't plan on that unless you have been told by IC that you definitely have that option.** In addition to the checked bag of luggage, you will be allowed to carry on 2 other pieces of hand baggage with your main piece being up to the dimensions of 22" x 18" x 10", including the handle, pockets and wheels. Your bag must fit into the bag gauge, available at the check-in area. Additionally, your laptop or handbag may be up to the dimensions of 18 in x 14 in x 8 in, including the handle and pockets. Your laptop or handbag must fit under the seat in front of you. **REMEMBER to pack only what you can carry.** Packing one medium-sized bag to check and one carry-on bag is best. Cars in Hungary are much smaller than ours and large bags present a huge (pardon the pun) problem.

**LUGGAGE TAGS:** Be sure your name is on the outside and the inside of your bag. You may want to tie a distinctive colored ribbon around the handle to make it easier to recognize.

**LET OTHERS HEAR ABOUT WHAT IS HAPPENING IN ALL THE CAMPS:** During the project, there are email reports from the camps that are sent out to your friends and family. Of course, that can only happen if you send their email information to us. **Be sure to provide their name and email address.** [Send the email information by clicking here.](#)

**WEATHER:** During summer, from April till August, Budapest is warm. The average highs for summer are in the 80's°F while the lows are around 60 °F. July is considered the hottest and sunniest month of the year. June, on the other hand, is the wettest month.

## C L O T H I N G

### **MEN:**

- ⊕ For daily classes at the camp, casual dress is appropriate. Slacks or clean/nice jeans with polo-style shirts are fine. Shorts would be fine during the week.
- ⊕ For the Friday evening time with parents and at church, it would probably be best to have slacks and a collared sport shirt.

### **WOMEN:**

- ⊕ Pants will be acceptable for travel and for camp.
- ⊕ A dress or skirt is always appropriate.
- ⊕ Short sleeves and sleeveless also are fine.

### **MEN & WOMEN:**

- ⊕ Take shoes that are sturdy and comfortable for walking. White/light soled shoes must be worn in the gyms.
- ⊕ Do not wear anything camouflage or military in nature.
- ⊕ A jacket or sweater may be needed for a cooler morning or evening.



tennis

**LODGING, PHONE CALLS AND TIME:** We will be using the Hotel Benczúr in Budapest, Hungary, for the first and last 1, 2 or 3 nights. The phone number for the hotel from the USA is 011 36 (1) 479-5662. It is best to give this phone number to your family and friends. Have them call you from the USA since it is cheaper for them to call you, instead of you calling from the hotel. You will be responsible for any overseas calls you make from the hotel. **Do not make any calls to the USA from your place of accommodation, regardless of an offer from your host!** If you want to use a cell phone, be sure to contact your carrier prior to departure to enable that

service and sign up for an international plan. Be aware that the costs may be very, very high to use your phone there. Hungary is on Central European Time (CET), so they are 7 hours later than Dallas. Remember when calling that Dallas is 7 hours earlier than CET!

**FOOD:** The food served at the project hotel is very reliable and very good. However, when you are away from the hotel you will need to be a bit cautious and use common sense. Here are some general rules to follow pertaining to food: all meat, poultry, and seafood should be well cooked and served hot. Coffee and tea are ok, as would be bottled water.

**SNACKS:** No matter how excellent or poor the food may be away from home, it will be different, and by the end of the week you may desire some of your favorite snacks. **If you take snacks, take enough to share with the host family. You do not want to leave the impression that their food is not good or is substandard.**

**WATER:** Not all water is ok to drink because "gray water" (not completely purified) is used some places in Europe for use outdoors and laundry etc. Any water given to you by the hotel or your host is fine to drink, as is bottled water. Virtually all tap water is ok as well. If in doubt, ask.

## MEDICINE:

- ⊕ Pack an ample supply of any prescription medicine that you may need for the length of the trip. Take whatever personal medicine you may need for your allergies, ailments, and possible sore throats or colds. Aspirin, Alka-Seltzer and Tums can be especially handy.
- ⊕ If you wear glasses or contacts, an extra pair of glasses can be handy.
- ⊕ If you are taking any medicine with you, it is of utmost importance to leave this medicine, (whether prescription or over-the-counter) in the original bottle/package. It is advisable to put medicine in your carry-on bag. If checked luggage is lost, you will not have your medicine.

**OTHER HANDY ITEMS TO PACK:** A penlight flashlight, hat, sunscreen, insect repellent, Chap Stick, a small mirror, Kleenex, an umbrella and/or poncho (from Wal-Mart), and wet wipes or liquid antibacterial (e.g. Purell).

**ELECTRICITY:** The electricity in Hungary is 220-240 Volts, 50 cycles (U.S./Canada are 110-120 Volts, 60 cycles). Check out this web-site about world electricity: <http://www.kropla.com/electric2.htm>



**DOCUMENTS:** Keep up with your passport. You may want to use a money-belt or shoulder pouch while traveling. Of course, you need your passport to travel, but once in your accommodations, you can leave your passport. If you should lose a document, IMMEDIATELY inform the project coordinator or team leader.



**MONEY:** Around \$100 is the average amount of extra money that most project participants take, but it is not required. Traveler's checks may be difficult to exchange. Be sure to carry your money with you at all times; resist the temptation to leave it in the hotel. Some believe it is a good idea to plan to shop for souvenirs in the latter days. The exchange rates as of May 2015 (some go through Germany and others go through England):

From	To: Country Currency	Amount	From	To	To quickly convert to approximate US Dollars/Euros/Lats
\$10	Hungarian Forint	Ft 2745	Ft 1,000	\$3.60	Make the comma a period and multiply by 3½ or 4
\$10	British Pound	£ 7.85	£ 10.00	\$12.75	Add ¼ of the amount back to the amount
\$10	Euro (Germany, etc.)	€ 8.90	€ 10.00	\$11.20	Add 10% of the amount back to the amount
€ 10	Hungarian Forint	Ft 3070	Ft 1,000	€ 3.25	Make the comma a period and multiply by 3

There are ATMs in Budapest, but some smaller cities may not have one.

## GIFTS:

**To your church/school** – There is no need to take a gift to the church or school.

**Personal Gifts** – In addition to your host and translator, you will make special new acquaintances and may want to give them a **small** gift that you brought from the USA. Some examples:

- ⊕ **ADULTS:** Paperweights, ties, pen and/or pencils sets, hats, caps, etc. Handmade items such as plaques, bookmarks, etc., small home decor items typical of USA. Picture Books of your area, state or county. Music CDs from your church or any other source.
- ⊕ **CHILDREN:** Story books, crayons, coloring books, balloons, gum, stickers, etc.



**HUNGARIAN CULTURE:** Christians in Hungary tend not to use tobacco, but many do drink alcoholic beverages. You will need to agree to abstain from the use of tobacco products, illegal drugs, and any other behavior that would hinder Christian ministry.

**JEWELRY:** Jewelry is acceptable, but large, flashy jewelry may leave wrong impression. Leave valuable treasures safely at home. With jewelry or any other possession, if it will break your heart to come home without it, don't take it.

**PHOTOGRAPHIC EQUIPMENT:** Be sure you have a large enough memory card for your camera and remember to take extra batteries, too.

## PROJECT COORDINATORS:

- ⊕ In the USA: Janice and Jerry Byrd, Cell phones: Janice: (214) 578-6525, Jerry: (469) 563-2741  
Hungarian cell number to reach Janice: +36 (20) 458 0878
- ⊕ Peter Barbarics, Hungarian coordinator: +36 (20) 886-4793
- ⊕ Email: [TheByrds@IC-World.org](mailto:TheByrds@IC-World.org)

**EMERGENCY CALLS:** Call the International Commission office at +1 (214) 488-2555. After hours and on weekends, use the voice mail system and leave a message in Emergency Box 300. As soon as you hang up, the voice mail system begins to call 3 different homes of IC staff members and it will continue to call until one of the staff members receives the call. Do not hesitate to call late at night or early in the morning.

# Packing Checklist

## Everyone

- 1-2 (based on fare type)  
Medium suitcases tagged with your name
- Personal Testimony/Story
- Battery-operated alarm clock
- Small gifts for new friends
- Small flashlight
- Snacks (if desired)
- Light jacket/sweater
- Modest sleepwear and/or robe

## Men

- 2-3 Pair of pants
- 4-5 Shirts
- 1 collared shirts
- Socks/Underwear
- Walking shoes/boots

## Women

- 1-3 Skirts/dresses (your preference)
- 4-5 Tops
- 3-4 Slacks (your preference)
- Socks/Underwear
- Walking shoes/boots
- Hygiene products

\*\*\*\*\* Carry-on Bag \*\*\*\*\*

- Tickets and Passport
- Bible
- 1 Change of clothes
- Camera and batteries
- Copy of passport picture
- Money belt or neck strap, if desired

► **In 3 oz bottles (in sealed, quart-size clear plastic)**

- Toothpaste/toothbrush
- Liquid cosmetics
- Aftershave/cologne
- Contact solution
- Any liquid or jells

Pack any large bottled items in your suitcase inside a water-proof bag

► **Toiletry Pack**

- Tissue packs for TP
- Toothbrush
- Bath Soap
- Brush/comb
- Shaving items
- Deodorant
- Extra glasses or contacts
- Normal meds/prescriptions

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*Visit [www.tsa.gov/travelers/index.shtm](http://www.tsa.gov/travelers/index.shtm) for more information about prohibited items and guidelines regarding carry-on luggage.*

*Good sites for information about Hungary:*  
<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hungary>  
<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Budapest>  
[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/\[put your city here\]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/[put your city here])