

## Budapest's Captivating Gems: Our Top Picks (Drawings by Michael)



**Hungarian Parliament (Kossuth Lajos tér 1-3, 1055).** It is Hungary's largest building designed by Hungarian architect Imre Steindl in neo-Gothic style and opened in 1902. It stands on the eastern bank of the Danube River.



**Fisherman's bastion (Szentháromság tér, 1014).** Originally part of castle walls from the 1700s, it was rebuilt between 1895 and 1902 by architect Frigyes Schulek. It features Neo-Romanesque terraces and seven stone towers representing Hungary's founding chieftains.



**Citadella (Citadella stny. 1, 1118).** It is a historic fortress built in 1851 after the Hungarian Revolution. Citadella is the Hungarian word for citadel, a kind of fortress.



**Memento park (Balatoni út - Szabadkai utca sarok, 1222).** Memento Park designed by architect Ákos Eleőd showcases statues and plaques from Hungary's Communist era (1949-1989), including figures like Lenin, Marx, Engels, and Hungarian Communist leaders.



**St. Stephen's Basilica (Szent István tér 1, 1051).** It's the co-cathedral of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Esztergom-Budapest, the third-largest church in Hungary, and a UNESCO World Heritage Site. It is named in honor of Stephen, the first King of Hungary (c. 975–1038), whose right hand is housed in the reliquary.



**Budapest's trams (Villamos).** Established in 1866, the Budapest tram network ranks among the world's largest, spanning 174 km of total routes.



**Széchenyi Chain Bridge (Széchenyi Lánchíd, 1051).** Designed by English engineer William Tierney Clark and built by Scottish engineer Adam Clark, it was Hungary's first permanent Danube bridge, opening in 1849.



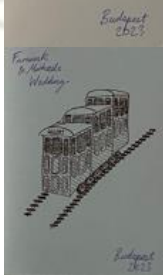
**Heroes' Square (Hősök tere, 1146).** It is famous for its Millennium Monument featuring the Seven Chieftains of the Magyars and other national leaders, as well as the Memorial Stone of Heroes, often referred as the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier.



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**Great market hall (Vámház krt. 1-3, 1093).** Budapest's largest and oldest indoor market was conceived by the city's first mayor, Károly Kamermayer. It opened in 1897 and stands near the Liberty Bridge. The aim was to enhance food supply and regulation in the capital, ensuring the sale of inspected goods.



**Hungarian national museum (Múzeum krt. 14-16, 1088).** Established in 1802 by the architect Mihály Pollack, it houses Hungary's historical, artistic, and archaeological treasures. The museum, located in a Neoclassical building, evolved from a library to a comprehensive history museum.



**Budapest castle hill funicular (Clark Ádám tér, 1013).** It is a historic funicular railway connecting Adam Clark Square and the Széchenyi Chain Bridge to Buda Castle. It began operating in 1870, damaged during World War II, and was reopened in 1986. This funicular was the second of its kind in Europe, with only Lyon having a similar system at the time.



**Buda castle (Szent György tér 2, 1014).** It is the historic palace complex of Hungarian Kings in Budapest. Originally completed in 1265, the current Baroque palace, built from 1749 to 1769, houses the Hungarian National Gallery and Budapest Historical Museum. It's known for its medieval, Baroque, and Neoclassical architecture.



**Szimpla kert (Kazinczy u. 14, 1075).** It is the first ruin pub in Budapest located in the city's Jewish Quarter and originally opened in 2002.



**Széchenyi thermal bath (Állatkerti krt. 9-11, 1146).** It is Europe's largest medicinal bath, drilled by Vilmos Zsigmondi in 1865-1875 and reached a depth of 975 meters. Originally known as the Artesian Spa, it officially became the Széchenyi Spa upon opening in 1913, in honor of István Széchenyi.



**Liberty Bridge (Szabadság híd).** It is the shortest bridge in Budapest and was built between 1894 and 1896 to the plans of János Feketeházy initially as part of the Millennium World Exhibition. The bridge was the first in the city to be rebuilt after suffering heavy damage during World War II.

**Margaret Island (Margitsziget).** It is a 2.5 km long island in the middle of the Danube in central Budapest. It's primarily covered by scenic parks and serves as a popular recreational area with medieval ruins harkening back to its significance in the Middle Ages. In the 14th century, it was named after Saint Margaret, daughter of Béla IV of Hungary.