

My First Days in Budapest – A Stunning Start to Erasmus

Arriving in Budapest for my Erasmus experience has been both exciting and overwhelming. From the moment I landed, I was struck by the beauty of the city, and I must say that it's quite clean, cleaner than most French cities.

The first monument I visited was the **Hungarian Parliament**. It is an incredible building, both in size and design, and definitely one of the most iconic landmarks in Budapest. However, I highly recommend visiting it at night. The way it is illuminated makes it even more impressive! Walking along the Danube in the evening and seeing the golden lights reflecting on the water was truly breathtaking. *(See my photo below!)*



Another interesting thing I quickly noticed is the currency used in Hungary. Unlike many European countries, Hungary does not use the euro but the “Hungarian forint (HUF)”. At first, it was a bit confusing to handle large numbers (1,000 HUF is about 2.5 euros) but I’m getting used to it. The banknotes are colorful and feature important Hungarian figures. *(I’ve attached a photo of some Hungarian bills!)*



During my first few days, I also explored other parts of the city, including some monuments in Buda (the part of the city located west of the Danube). I also met amazing Erasmus students from all over Europe (a lot of them from Spain) . The adventure is just beginning, and I'm excited to discover more!

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