

Familiar Faces in a Foreign City

Budapest has given me so many new experiences, new friends, new habits — but nothing beats the feeling of seeing people from home stepping into your new world.

A few weeks ago, something pretty special happened: my former school manager came to visit me and my friends here in Budapest. It felt a bit surreal at first — like two separate parts of my life had suddenly merged. But more than anything, it was a proud moment. Showing someone who knew me from back home how I was doing and the life we were living abroad was incredible.



And just when I thought the visit couldn't be topped, one of my closest friends arrived two weeks later. That one really hit differently. Sharing your favorite bar, walking the streets you've come to love, laughing over inside jokes in a whole new setting — it reminded me how important home connections are, no matter how far you travel.

In a way, having them here made me realize how much I've grown. They saw the same city I did, but through my eyes, through the version of me that Budapest helped shape. And honestly? Seeing all of them felt incredible. Like the puzzle was complete — just for a little while.

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