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**Blog Post #4 – Budapest**

## **Headline: Sun, Study, and Lake Days: A Slower Month in Budapest**

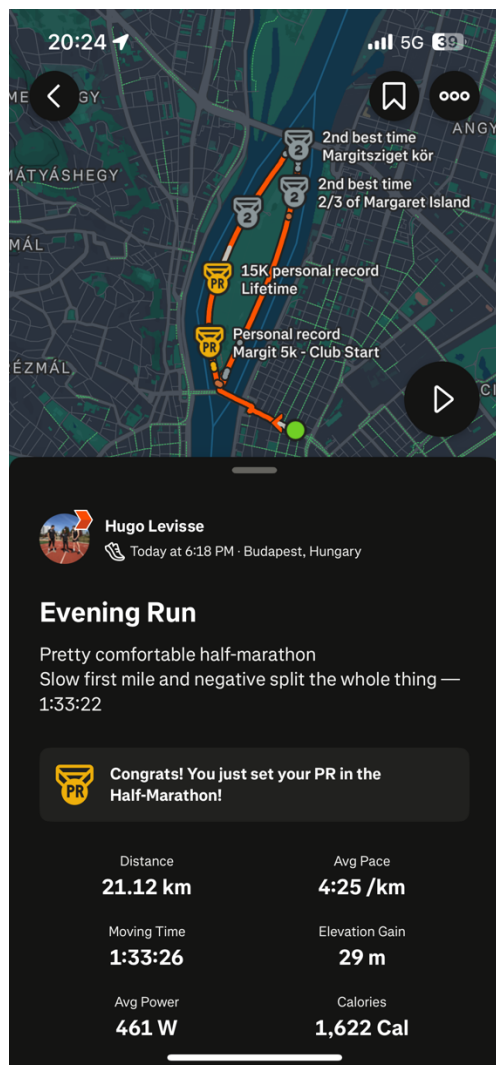
This month in Budapest has been a little quieter, and honestly, that has been a nice change of pace. With final assignments piling up and exams just around the corner, I've been spending more time at my desk than on trains or buses. Even though I've traveled a bit less, the past few weeks have still been full of memorable moments, both on campus and around the city.

Most of my time lately has gone into wrapping up group projects and prepping for finals. It's that part of the semester where everything seems to happen at once, but it has also been a good reminder of how much I've learned during my time here. Balancing schoolwork and social life can be tricky, but I've made it a point to enjoy the moments in between. Whether it's grabbing a coffee after class or just hanging out in a park, these everyday things with friends have made the semester feel more meaningful.



Speaking of friends, I've had a chance to spend time with both new people I've met in Budapest and others who came into town for a visit. There's something really special about showing someone around a place you now feel connected to, and it's also been fun to explore more of the city with fresh eyes.

The warmer weather has definitely helped my mood and motivation. I've started running more regularly again, usually in the mornings or evenings when the city is quieter. Running along the Danube, through the city's parks, or my favorite; Margaret Island, has been such a great way to unwind and reset after hours of studying.



One of the best days this month was a quick day trip to Lake Balaton. The sun was out, the water was perfect, and we spent the afternoon swimming and playing beach volleyball. It felt like a mini vacation and a much-needed break from the study grind. Even though we were only there for the day, it reminded me how much beauty is just a short trip away from the city. We will definitely be back in the weeks to come.

As the semester winds down, I'm trying to soak in the little things—sunny days, good conversations, and this feeling of being settled in a place that once felt completely new.