

## Discovering Budapest: First impressions

**Name:** Seillé Etienne

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### A new beginning

Moving to a new city is always an adventure, especially when you never been to the country before. As I settle into Budapest, I find myself navigating unfamiliar streets, adjusting to a new culture, new people and getting used to my new life for the next five months. It can be quite stressful to move in a new place but it's also an enriching experience that allows me to discover incredible places. It is why in this blog I will present 2 main landmarks of Budapest that I discovered during a walk.

### The Buda Castle

After a few minutes of walking and several stairs climbed, my first exploration in Budapest led me to the Buda Castle (Figure1). Perched atop Castle Hill, this structure dominates the skyline on the Buda side of the city. It was originally built in the 13th century, the Buda Castle has witnessed centuries of history, from medieval battles to modern-day restorations. From the top, I had an incredible panoramic view of the Danube River and the city below was breathtaking, making the walk more than worth it. We can also see the illuminated Parliament from here.

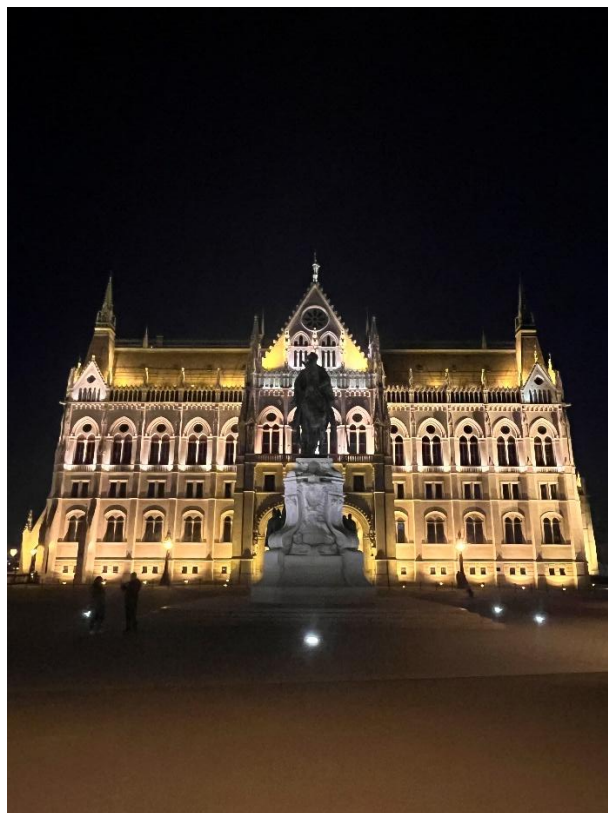


*Figure 1 - Part of Buda Castle*

## **The Hungarian Parliament Building**

Talking about the Parliament, here is a brief description of my outdoor exploration, and a night photography of it. The Hungarian Parliament Building is an architectural masterpiece on the banks of the Danube. It was built in the late 19th century. This historical structure stands as one of the most beautiful political buildings that I have ever seen. It represents Hungary's rich history and national pride. The building is particularly stunning when illuminated at night (Figure2), reflecting off the river. As I stood there admiring its grandeur, I realized how much Budapest has to offer in terms of culture and history. Next time, I'll need to explore it from the interior.

Here is the official site of the Hungarian parliament for more information if you want to:  
<https://www.parlament.hu/web/visitors/>



*Figure 2 - Hungarian Parliament*

Adapting to a new city takes time, and while there are inevitable challenges, there is also the joy of discovering new places, meeting new people, and learning about a different culture. Exploring Budapest will be as challenging as it is amazing. I'm excited to share more of the city with you. There are many different aspects to describe.