

A Short Review of my travels in Hungary

22 September 2024. Nat Sittirash.



Budapest was the city I visited in Hungary, and it is such a lovely place with the Danube River separating the two sides—Buda and Pest. Getting around Budapest by public transport is very convenient, especially by tram. Some of the old tram cars from the 1960s are still in operation alongside new ones. The Budapest tram network is one of the largest in the world by route length (Wikipedia, 2024), and the city recently just won the European Mobility Week Award, EU funding to Hungary has been substantial.

I bought tram tickets from a machine at a tram station, and the tickets needed to be validated onboard. The doors opened automatically before alighting, even on the old tram cars. The tram I boarded crossed a bridge, Liberty Bridge, with stunning views, both during the day and at night.



The distance between pedestrians and trams is very close. In some areas next to the tram tracks, it felt like walking past people shoulder by shoulder. Their sense of safety is quite interesting.



A smile from the driver in response to a wave from a friendly tourist :)

Micromobility: I didn't see many cyclists around the city.

However, I came across an e-scooter station near the bridge, and the e-scooters looked quite small. They are definitely not a dominant mode of transport.



Buses: Commuting around the city by buses is very convenient. I quickly adapted to the bus system in Budapest by downloading an app called bkk. Users simply enter their origin and destination, then show the ticket to the bus driver before boarding. The seats were quite comfortable, with individual seating, adequate leg room, and real-time information onboard, allowing me to track my current location during the trip.

The walking corridor in the middle of the bus is quite narrow. I suppose this is a trade-off for the individual seating, given a limited width of the vehicle.



Other transport options, such as cruises along the Danube River, Taxi, and Uber are readily available. I even came across some vehicles that look similar to demand-responsive transport in Bangkok, known as Tuk Tuk.



More photos from Budapest

