



THE UNIVERSITY OF SZEGED FACULTY OF LAW AND POLITICAL SCIENCES WELCOMES YOU TO SZEGED!

I. ARRIVING IN HUNGARY

Most people would agree that the easiest way for a foreigner to get to Szeged is via a Budapest route since the capital city also acts as an infrastructural centre buses, trains etc. to Szeged are far easier to be found, and there's also a higher probability for you to find someone who speaks English if you need help.



Flights: The *Liszt Ferenc Airport* (or Ferihegy) is Hungary's biggest international airport. It is located near Budapest, the capital city. Coming from abroad via a plane is probably the most time- and costeffective way.

Please do yourself a favour and neglect the other airports as it is very complicated to get to Szeged from Debrecen, for example. Timisoara Airport (Romania) seems to be close but choose only this option if you hired a transfer. By public transport, it is a nightmare to get to Szeged!



Trains: There are quite a few international trains to Budapest. Their destination is usually the Eastern Railway Station (Keleti Pályaudvar) or the Southern Railway Station (Déli Pályaudvar).

However, you should know that if you're going to Szeged by train, they depart from the Western Railway Station *(Nyugati Pályaudvar)* and Szeged, you also arrive here.

Please check the website for the schedule for trains: <u>https://www.mavcsoport.hu/en</u>

You can buy tickets at the stations and also you can use the MÁV application, search for this symbol! It can be found on both Android and iOS devices' app stores. It has an English interface, and tickets are cheaper if you buy them through the application. If you're under



26 you may get another discount on your ticket, but you have to prove it with an ID card or passport!

Android:

https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=hu.mavszk.vonatinfo&hl=en&gl=US

iOS: <u>https://apps.apple.com/hu/app/mav/id969467518</u>

Be careful! Szeged-Budapest trains are intercity trains which means they have at least two types of wagons: *ordinary ones* where you can sit wherever you want, and you have to add to the basic ticket only a supplementary speed train ticket and those which require an *IC-seat ticket reservation* (there are the nicer ones of course with air conditioning, and it is only around 1 EUR pricier than the ordinary ticket)! If you have an IC-seat ticket reservation, too, then you don't have to buy the supplementary speed train ticket. The application easily guides you during the purchase so as the automat (no worries, you get multiple small papers, keep them all!) If you buy your ticket at a cash desk, you better have a piece of paper with your destination to show to the lady/gent at the desk: Hungarian names of cities are tricky for foreigners \bigcirc

The compartments with seat reservations are always either at the end or the very beginning of the trains, the speaker will announce it (Hungarian and English) where you find it before the train arrives. When it arrives, try to get on it close to the seats to avoid crossing the whole train but if you cannot, just get on the train and you will find your compartments just it will be a bit uncomfortable to drag your luggage through the non-seat ticket compartments.

It may happen that the person selling the tickets is not good in English and you have no Wifi to use google translate. In this case, here is the sentence you need: Jó napot kívánok! Egy teljes árú menetjegyet szeretnék Szeged Nagyállomásig, helyjeggyel. Köszönöm!

It means that you want a full-price ticket with IC-seat reservation until Szeged Train Station.



You can also arrive in Budapest, Hungary by bus but the final destination varies according to bus companies. The central station in Budapest is the **Budapest Népliget autóbusz-pályaudvar** which is also a reference point for traffic.

The metro also has a stop there, so by using it, you can reach all destinations in Budapest and also in different parts of the country.

Here you can see the timetables and other travel information: <u>https://www.volanbusz.hu/en</u>

You can also buy here tickets online or with the help of your phone via an application!



BEFORE YOU PLAN YOUR JOURNEY TO HUNGARY AND EVEN BEFORE YOU LEAVE HOME, PLEASE CHECK THE NEWS ON THE CURRENT MIGRATION RULES AND POSSIBLE ENTRY RESTRICTIONS:

HTTPS://U-SZEGED.HU/ENGLISH/ARRIVAL

III. GETTING TO SZEGED



a) From Budapest airport

Most probably you are going to arrive at the 2A terminal if you came by plane. If you arrive in 2B, don't worry, it is the same building just you must walk to the other side of it either in the building or on the pavement in front of it.

To get to the Ferihegy Railway Station (our airport used to be called Ferihegy, that is why the stop is also called this way) there's a bus that goes there from the Airport, the **200E**. A ticket costs 350 HUF at the terminal at a newsagent or from the automat, however, if you choose to buy it on the bus bear in mind that it costs 450 HUF. The bus driver does not accept any currency but Hungarian forint (Ft). The easiest way to get a ticket is to use one of the ticket machines at the airport with a credit card, so you don't have to hassle with exchanging cash at a high price.

On the bus, you will find a screen that shows the name of the stops, and a speaker also announces them. You have to get off at *Ferihegy – vasútállomás*. Don't forget to validate your ticket and don't forget to signal your intention to get off, otherwise, the bus probably won't stop. The ride to the

Bus schedules may be found here: <u>https://bkk.hu/en/</u>

Ferihegy – vasútállomás (Ferihegy train station) is approximately 10-15 minutes from the terminal you arrive to, depending on the number of persons getting off at different airport stops (the airport itself is big and for those who work there) and you get off the bus, you need to cross the motorway via the bridge over it. The elevator is usually out of service, sorry! When you go along the bridge, at the end you will find two stairs to go down, choose the second, which is at the end of the bridge, that will lead you to the platform where all the trains that go to Szeged stop. At the stop, there is no railway station just a kiosk where you can buy your ticket or a machine. However, it is far easier for a foreigner to buy a train ticket via the MÁV application.

There's a train every hour, the last one is usually at 20:13. The journey to Szeged takes approximately 2 hours and 15 minutes. However, shorter delays are quite regular, so don't be surprised! Sorry for that.

VouTube Here you can find a video on how to get to Szeged by train from the Budapest Airport.

If you wish to travel more comfortably, you can order **a transfer** previously your journey. Many companies circulate between Szeged (and surrounding areas) and the Ferihegy/Liszt Ferenc Airport. It picks you up at the airport and drives you to your home. They all have online formats to fill, you can pay previously or at the

driver, and they send you feedback and a short message with the phone number of the driver, so language barriers are usually successfully solved.

The University of Szeged website gives you help with suggestions:

ZÖLDTRANSZFER https://zoldtranszfer.hu

PEGAZUS TRANSZFER http://pegazustranszfer.hu/en_EN/fooldal

You can check out the following sites: https://www.transzferszeged.hu/services-en.html https://www.airportshuttle.hu/ https://www.rome2rio.com/s/Szeged/Budapest-Airport-BUD https://www.suntransfers.com/budapest-airport-to-szeged



b) Szeged from the Budapest Railway Stations

In general, international trains arrives at the Eastern Railway Station (Budapest-Keleti). However, there is also another central railway station, the Southern Railway Station (Déli pályaudvar) So, if you wish to continue your journey to Szeged, you have to go to Budapest-Nyugati

Budapest is a large city and there are lots of means to get from one train station to the other, however, since the situation of traffic may change quite quickly, the easiest way to get to the **Western Railway Station** (Nyugati Pályaudvar/Budapest Nyugati) is to use either **Google Maps** or **Apple Maps** to get your directions, since it is constantly updated – there might be ongoing constructions, delays or other circumstances that may affect public transport.

Most of the stations usually have a ticket machine. **These need to be validated** on the vehicle or if you use the metro, then at the entrance of the station; you cannot miss the validating machines!



c) Szeged by bus

As there are trains every hour from starting from approx 5- 21:00, the bus connection is less favourable from Budapest to Szeged, but check the timetable if it is suitable for you!

If not, by metro, you can easily reach Nyugati Pályaudvar, where you can catch a train every hour! All train stations can be reached by metro, that is the quickest and least complicated means of transfer in Budapest.



You can find this <u>map</u> and all relevant information on the website of BKK (Budapest transport centre) here: <u>https://bkk.hu/en/</u>

IV. PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION IN SZEGED

One of the things you need to get acquainted to when coming to Szeged is the local public transportation system. *Szegedi Közlekedési Társaság*/**SZKT** (<u>https://szkt.hu/en/</u>) provides bus, trolleybus, tram lines all over the city and it is responsible for everything that is public transportation related.

There are various means of transportation in Szeged therefore it would be difficult to collect all the information about the public transportation here, but this guide has everything you need to know in order to get to somewhere within the city.



You can find this map and other useful transport information here: <u>https://szkt.hu/vonalhalozat</u>

The main crossing points for all means of public transport is Szeged are the following places:

<u>1 Main Train station/Szeged Nagyállomás</u>: 6725 Szeged, Indóház tér 2.

It is important to keep in mind that this is the only train station in Szeged which is connected to the line that goes to Budapest, the stations in Újszeged and Rókus are not!

Rókus Pályaudvar is connected to the Nagyállomás, the main station, but only trains to the southern-eastern parts of the country are going through it. However, the train station in Újszeged is not connected to either of the stations.

<u>**2 Mars tér/ square</u>** – here you can find the **Main Bus Station** (and also the big city market)</u>

<u>3.</u> It is important to discover the building which is currently the <u>main faculty</u> <u>building</u>: Bocskai utca/street 10-12. 6721 Szeged, Bocskai utca 10-12.

<u>4. City centre: Széchenyi tér/square</u> – the park that is the heart of Szeged



Although it is being renovated now, it is essential to mention the **symbol of the Faculty of Law** and also our main building at Tiszta Lajos körút/avenue 54. It is in the absolute city centre but now, it is closed from public.



Tickets

To travel you need a validated ticket or pass. You can buy tickets and passes from vending machines, sales points. In that case when you purchase a pass from sales point you have to pay attention to fill the pass with your student card ID. Single tickets – valid for one ride – can be bought onboard by your card. <u>It is recommended to always travel with validated ticket or pass</u> because of ticket controllers.

For further information about tickets, passes, sales points, etc. click on this link: <u>https://szkt.hu/en/penztarak-en</u>.

Apps, websites



There are a lot of public transportation-related apps and websites you can use daily in order to choose the quickest route to your destination, but Google is also very reliable guide for getting from

one place to another.

Taxi

There are taxi services in the city but there are not any Ubers. The drivers may not speak in English, but they should be able to take you to your desired destination if you show them the address. A trip usually costs between 1000-3000 HUF in the centre. The public transportation is recommended because it costs less and when arriving to Szeged the Tram 2 takes you directly to the city centre (and everything can be reached from there).

Uber does not operate in Hungary.

Tram-train

Szeged has a new public transport achievement which connects Szeged Nagyállomás to the city centre of Hódmezővásárhely, a neighbouring city. It is being tested but once it operates full time, it will open a new horizon in the public transport of the the cities!

V. MAKE THE MOST OF YOUR STAY IN SZEGED!



Szeged

Szeged has an official website for tourims: <u>http://szegedtourism.hu/en/home/</u> It collects all what you need to know: where to stay, what to see, what to taste what to do and what is good to know when you spend some time in the city!



Hungary is, for example, is rich in thermal water with medical effects and in Szeged, the Anna fürdő/bath is a great place to experience it! Located in the heart of the city, the building is a gem of Szeged.

You can find more information about the spa here: <u>https://www.termalfurdo.hu/furdo/anna-gyogy-termal-es-elmenyfurdo-94/arak</u> , <u>http://www.szegedsport.hu/intezmenyek/anna-furdo</u>



If you are interested in the culinary features of this part of Hungary, you should know that Szeged is famous for its fish soup as the river Tisza offers a wide range of fish material.

Szeged has many great programs for you, depending when you stay here: wine festivals, fish soup festivals, music festivals...you are never bored, check the webiste about the current events!

If you wish to have a long walk in nature but have limited traveling options or just wish to stay in Szeged, the **Botanical Gardens** (Füvészkert) is the place for you: <u>https://fuveszkert.u-szeged.hu/en/</u> Beuatiful flowers, interesting plants from all over the world and many programs to enjoy the pure air and the twittering of birds!





However, if you wish to have an excursion in the nature, the **Szeged Zoo** is also a great place to spend a couple of hours. Elephants, a wide range of big cats, giraffes are waiting for you here: <u>https://fuveszkert.uszeged.hu/en/</u> The zoo is a very animal friendly park, so, be prepared with comfortable footware!

Both places are easily accessible by public transport and from the city centre, both is no more than 20 minutes by tram/bus.



If you wish to get home some traditional souvenir, check the paprika and the szeged papucs (floklore slippers). They are so called Hungarikums and very attached to Szeged!

Check our for further famous Hungarian values and souvenir tips from Hungarikums: http://www.hungarikum.hu/en

Close neighbourhood of Szeged¹

Ópusztaszer Heritage Park

If you wish to learn about the history of Hungary and how our ancestors lived, visit the Ópusztaszer! It is located 25 kms northwest of Szeged and it is said to be the venue for the first parliament and law-making session. The Árpád-memorial near was built for the millennium in 1896 and later, the Ópusztaszer **Heritage**



Park was established in the XXth century. The Feszty-panorama representing the arrival of the Hungarians in the Carpathian Basin can be seen here and the heritage park offers all day programs in addition to the panorama, several exhibitions, an open-air ethnographic museum showing the folk architecture of Csongrád county, a nomadic park and horse shows evoking the life of the ancient

¹ All places can be directly reached by bus, check the bus schedule here: <u>https://menetrendek.hu/mobile/?lng=en</u>

Hungarians make our visit a memorable experience. In all seasons of the year the park awaits its guests with various spectacular programs. It can be reached by bus from Mars tér!

Se more information: <u>https://opusztaszer.hu/english/</u>

Mórahalom



Mórahalom is a small town located around 30 kilometres away from Szeged. Basically, it is about to take 30 minutes to get there by bus from Mars tér.

It is mostly remarkable for its spa (https://erzsebetfurdo.morahalom.hu/en/index) and the Mini Hungary Park (https://ezerevparkja.hu/en/home-2/) where you can see the small version of Hungary's main sights!

Hódmezővásárhely

Hódmezővásárhely is very close to Szeged and by the new tram-train, you can easily reach the city centre in approximately 30 minutes! As it is a tram, you can choose from multiple stops to gen on and off! This town has many possibilities where you can have fun, and also, you are able to



find excellent accommodations if Szeged cannot offer you what you are looking for. As all cities of Hungary, Hódmezővásárhely also has a spa, and many interesting programs and places worth visiting. See details: <u>http://www.szeporszag.hu/Tourinform+Iroda+-</u>+H%C3%B3dmez%C5%91v%C3%A1s%C3%A1rhely.latnivalo

WE WISH YOU TO HAVE A WONDERFUL TIME IN SZEGED!



Prepared by Erzsébet Csatlós, PhD with the contribution of Evelin Bordás, Kíra Daniella Sindel, Arnold-István Szabó trainees Szeged, 2021