JewishGen
מרכז עולמי לגנאלוגיה יהודית
The Global Home for Jewish Genealogy

Finding Your Jewish Ancestors in Greater Hungary: Resources and Tips

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JewishGen Hungarian Research Division
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Santa Rosa, California

San Francisco Bay Area jewish Genealogy Society

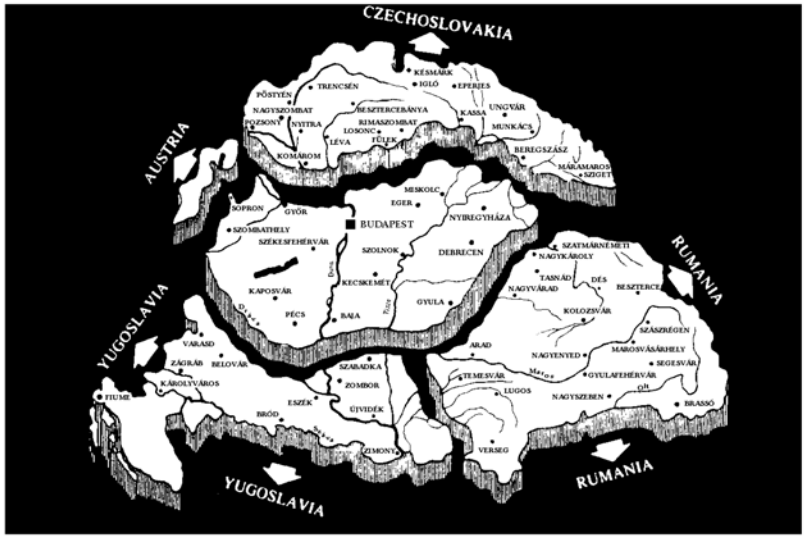
Hungarian-Jewish Timeline

Abt. 200	Jews begin settling in Pannonia probably following Roman legions as traders and craftsmen
Abt. 896	Magyars arrive in Carpathian Basin
1251 and 1291	Kings Bela IV and Endre III grant rights to Jews
1360	King Lajos I expels Jews after failed attempt at conversion
1772	Partition of Poland creates Galicia as royal domain of Habsburg triggering significant migration of Jews to Hungary
1783 -1787	Emperor Joseph II grants substantial rights to Jews, orders all Jews to adopt German language family names
1867	Dual monarchy created by compromise (the Ausgleich) between Emperor Franz Joseph and Kingdom of Hungary
1919-20	Austria-Hungary defeated by Allies; Treaties of Saint Germain and


AUSTRIA-HUNGARY IN 1914
1:8 500 000
0 100 200 300 km
Austria-Hungary
Trianon borders
Kingdom of Hungary
The Austrian Empire
Bosnia-Hercegovina
NÉMET BIRODALOM
OROSZ BIRODALOM
NÉMET-ORSZÁG
CSEHORSZÁG
LENGYELORSZÁG
GALICIA
SZOVJET-OROSZORSZÁG
FELSŐ-AUSZTRIA
ALSÓ-AUSZTRIA
SVÁJC
OLASZORSZÁG
KARINTIA
KRAJNA
MORVAORSZÁG
SZLOVÁKIA
OSZTRÁK-MAGYAR MONARCHIA
MAGYARORSZÁG
HORVÁTORSZÁG
SZERB-HORVÁT-SZLOVÉN KIRÁLYSÁG
BOSZNIA
HERCEGOVINA
MONTENEGRO
ALBÁNIA
ROMÁNIA
BESSZARÁBIA
DOBRUDZSA
BULGÁRIA
ADRIAI-TENGER
FEKETE-TENGER
Wiesbaden
Prague
Plzeň (Pilsen)
Nürnberg
Strasbourg (Strasbourg)
Stuttgart
Brünn (Brno)
Lublin
Kraków
Lemberg (Lwów)
Tarnopol
Kiev
Munchen
Linz
Salzburg
Passau
Pozsony (Bratislava)
Miskolc
Ungvár (Uzhgorod)
Kassa (Košice)
Debrecen
Nagyvárad (Oradea)
Budapest
Kolozsvár (Cluj)
Szeged
Pécs
Temesvár (Timişoara)
Újvidék (Novi Sad)
Zagráb (Zagreb)
Ljubljana
Trieste
Fiume
Velence
Milano
Zürich
Bern
Basel
Innsbruck
Bozen (Bolzano)
Klagenfurt
Graz
Lemberg
Iaşi
Galaţi
Brăila
Ploieşti
Bukarest
Turnu Severin
Ruse
Plevna
Tirnovo
Varna
Burgas
Sofia
Plovdiv
Nis
Sarajevo
Banja Luka
Mostar
Spalato (Split)
Ragusa (Dubrovnik)
Cattaro (Kotor)
Durazzo
Valona
Görök Birodalom
Törökország

Changing Boundaries

Under 1921 Treaty of Trianon, Hungary loses 72% of its land area



The Dismemberment of the Kingdom of Hungary in Trianon, 1921



Land south of Tisza River ceded to Romania, north to new nation of Czechoslovakia

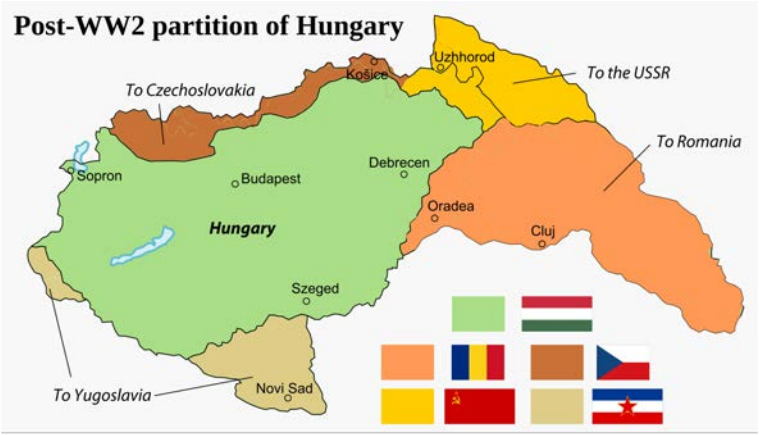
Inter-War and Post-War

1938-1939 First Vienna Award
Lands in southern Slovakia and southern Carpatho-Ukraine (Ruthenia) separated from Czechoslovakia and returned to Hungary

1940 Second Vienna Award
Northern Transylvania and Crisana reverted from Romania to Hungary

Post-World 2
Southern Slovakia to Czechoslovakia, Carpatho-Ukraine to USSR, Transylvania to Romania





What's In a Name?

- ✓ Where and when was the record created?
- ✓ Were personal and place names affected by border changes?
- ✓ Primary vs. secondhand sources — Self, parent, relative, neighbor?
- ✓ What were informant's and recorder's language?





Caption

Where Did They Live?

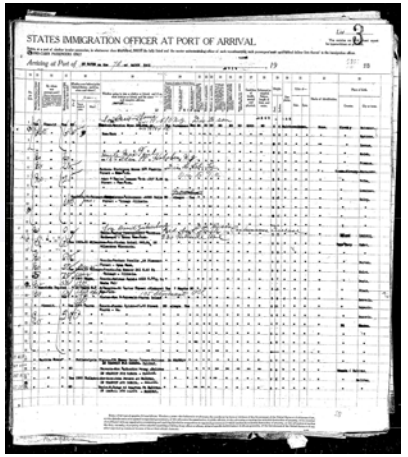
Austria? Hungary?
Czechoslovakia? Budapest?

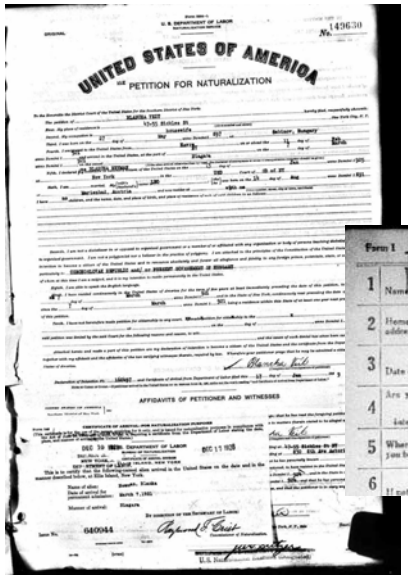
“My grandmother doesn’t remember but says it sounded like….”

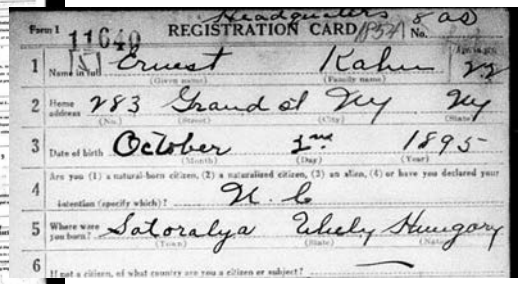
Other sources:

- ✓ Passenger manifest
- ✓ Naturalization record
- ✓ Vital or census records
- ✓ Draft registration records
- ✓ Town-Finders and gazetteers





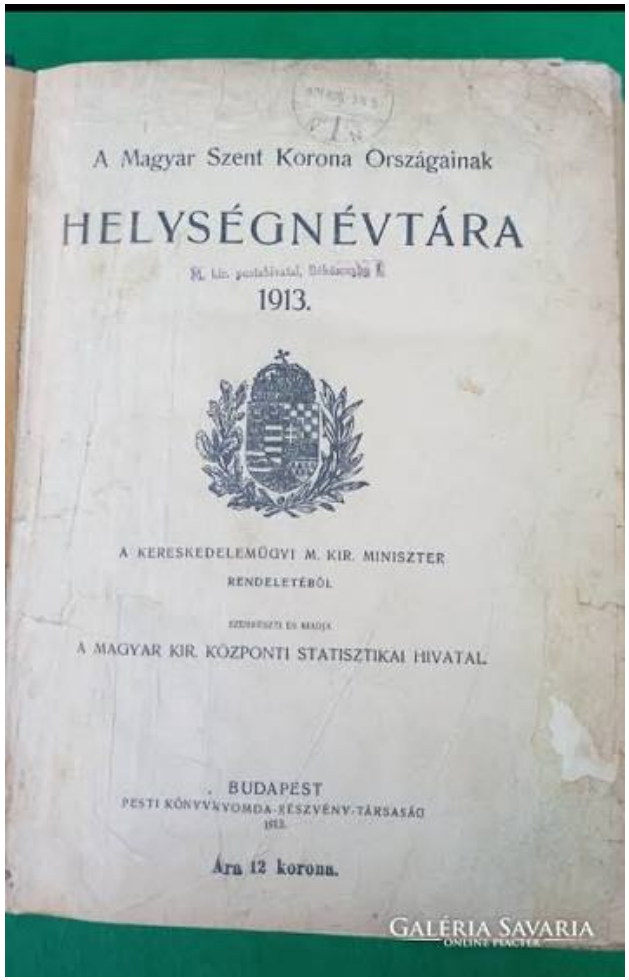




Identifying Place Names

Record may list town (*varos*) or district (*jaras)* names, both of which changed along with border changes. See:

- ✓Radix Genealogy, 1913 and 1882 Gazetteers <http://www.bogardi.com/gen>
- ✓Cisarik <https://www.cisarik.com/0_all-villages-A.html>
- ✓Laszlo Sebok Transindex <https://sebok2.adatbank.ro>
- ✓Jordan Auslander, *Genealogical Gazetteer for the Kingdom of Hungary,* Avotaynu, 2005
- ✓JewishGen Communities Database https://www.jewishgen.org/Communities/search.php>



Identifying Personal Names

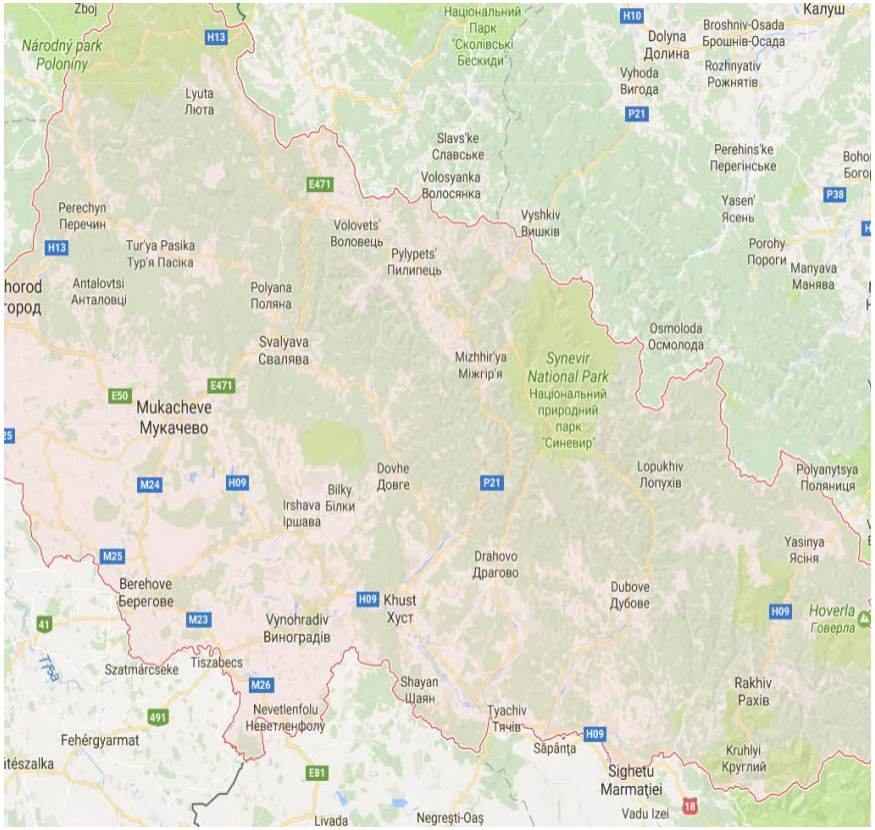
- ✓ Hebrew name for religious purposes (gravestones, ketubot, Torah readings)
- ✓ Yiddish name within family
- ✓ Secular Hungarian or Germanic name for official purposes (government documents, public life
- ✓ Common equivalents phonetically similar or popular
- ✓ Traditional Hungarian names from Magyar chieftains and other historical figures without Jewish or English equivalents (e.g. Arpad, Attila, Akos, Bela, Bence, Csaba, Laszlo, Zoltan)





Sub-Carpathia Research Division

Covers historical Sub-Carpathia region including formerly Hungarian areas in Bereg and Ugocsa counties and parts of Maramaros and Ung counties currently in Ukraine (previously in Czechoslovakia, Hungary and the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic) with records in Ukraine archives.



Births, Marriages and Deaths (Vital Records)

Records from archives in Hungary, Slovakia, and Romania dated generally for years from 1800-1914 with growing number of civil records dating from October 1895.

- ✓ Data from handwritten Hungarian, German or, sometimes Hebrew registers from information provided by family and maintained by rabbis (and other religious leaders) in each community as mandated by Austria-Hungarian Emperor
- ✓ Names may be secular or familiar Jewish; ages often incorrect especially in older records
- ✓ Unique records from Transylvania and areas in eastern Slovakia (formerly Saros, Zemplen, and Ung) not available at FamilySearch.org or Ancestry.com
- ✓ See FamilySearch for Jewish records transcribed by JewishGen volunteers and Ancestry for index to JewishGen records

Slovak Archives Project

- ✓ Digitizing and transcribing vital, census, and other records in Slovak State, Regional, and municipal archives
- ✓ To date, more than 105,000 vital records including all available from Abauj-Torna, Zemplen, and Ung <https://www.jewishgen.org/databases/Hungary/SlovakCivilVitalRecords_intro.html>
- ✓ 1857 Census records from Saros, Abauj-Torna, Zemplen, Komarom, Zala, Torna <https://www.jewishgen.org/databases/hungary/census1857.htm>
- ✓ 1930 Czech Census for Slovakia <https://www.jewishgen.org/databases/hungary/census1930.htm>






MÁRAMAROS VÁRMEGYE
TÉRKÉPE.
Kiadatott a vallás- és közoktatásügyi
m. kir. Miniszter úr megbízásából.
Területe: 9720 □km.
Lélekszáma: 342,401 (1907)
Várm. székhelye: Máramarossziget rtv.
Mérték 1:500,000
Kilométer
Jelmagyarázat:
Járások:
1. Dolhai járás
2. Huszti "
3. Izavölgyi "
4. Ökörmezői "
5. Sugatagi "
6. Szigeti "
7. Taraczvizi "
8. Técsői "
9. Tiszavölgyi "
10. Visói "
MARMAROS SZIGET
Tiszabogdány
Borsa
Máramaros-Sziget
Técső
Visó
Huszt
Ökörmező
Dolha
Sugatag
Taraczköz
Kőrösmező
Rahó
Nagybocskó
Szolnok-Doboka várm.
Besztercze-Naszód várm.
Bukovina

Maramures Records <https://www.jewishgen.org/databases/hungary/maramaros.htm>

Jewish population first immigrated from Galicia to Maramaros, on the northeastern border of the Hungarian kingdom, after Second Partition of Poland in 1772.

- ✓ Maramaros comprised lands now in western Ukraine (Zakarpattia Oblast) and Romania (Maramures)
- ✓ More than 83,000 records from all available Jewish registers from c. 1850-1895 and civil registers from 1895 to 1917 for Maramaros and other formerly Hungarian areas now in Maramures, Romania
- ✓ Original records digitized in Baia Mare branch of Romania State archives and archives in Ukraine
- ✓ Recent additions include records for survivors from Sighet and nearby communities from books held by Sighet Jewish community center

Transylvania (Szekely) Vital Records

Acquisition and transcription digital images of birth, marriage, and death records of Jewish families in Transylvania other than Maramaros

Religious and civil records from registers in National Archives of Romania in Buchare st and in regional branches in region's counties including:

- ✓ Arad
- ✓ Bihar
- ✓ Besztercze-Naszod/Bistrita
- ✓ Hunyad
- ✓ Szatmar/Satu Mare
- ✓ Temes/Timis
- ✓ Szilagy/Zalau



Census Records

1828 Jewish household heads owing property tax from *Vagyonösszeirás* (Family Search)

1771-1850 *Conscriptio Judaerum* with family data used to calculate *Tolerantis* tax including 1846 list of Jews permitted to live and work in Pest and 1848 censuses from counties primarily in Slovakia

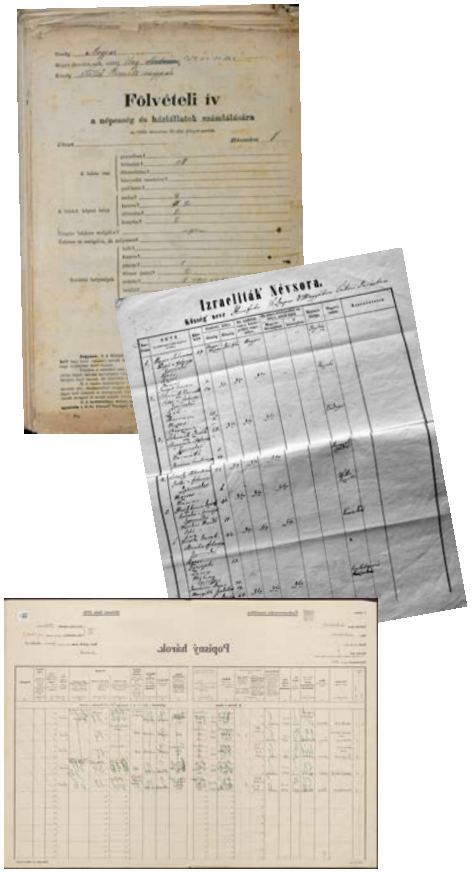
1857 Conducted to count men for military service including some records from Hungary and Romania (Family Search) and in Slovakia indexed by JewishGen

1869 Jewish households listed in general census primarily from counties in Slovakia

1921 Jewish households in Karpatalja Subcarpathia Census from images at *Hungaricana*

1930 Jewish households in Slovakia from Czech Census images at *Slovakiana*)

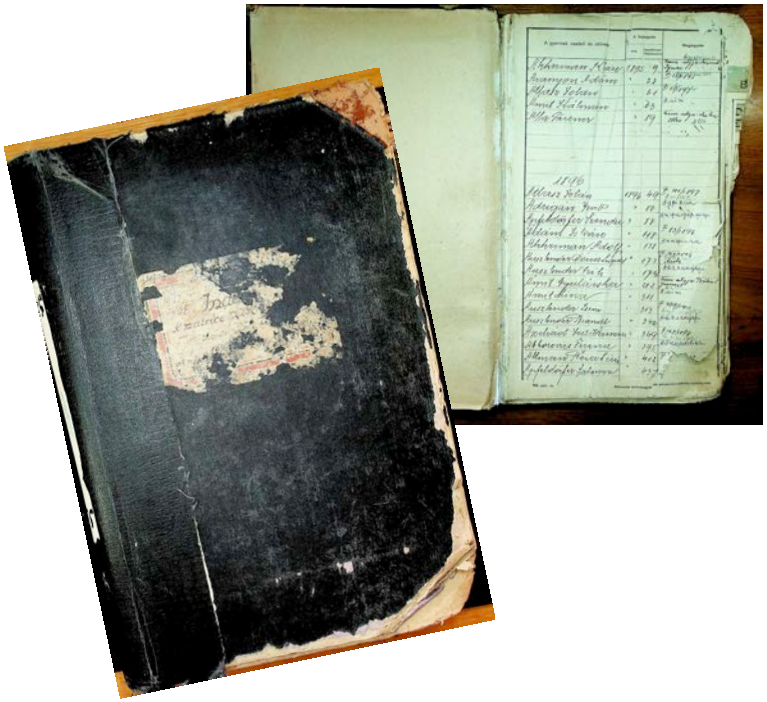
Plus family lists, passport applications, etc. from archives in Hungary, Slovakia, Romania and Ukraine



Sub-Carpathian Records
<https://www.jewishgen.org/databases/Hungary/SubCarpathia.htm>

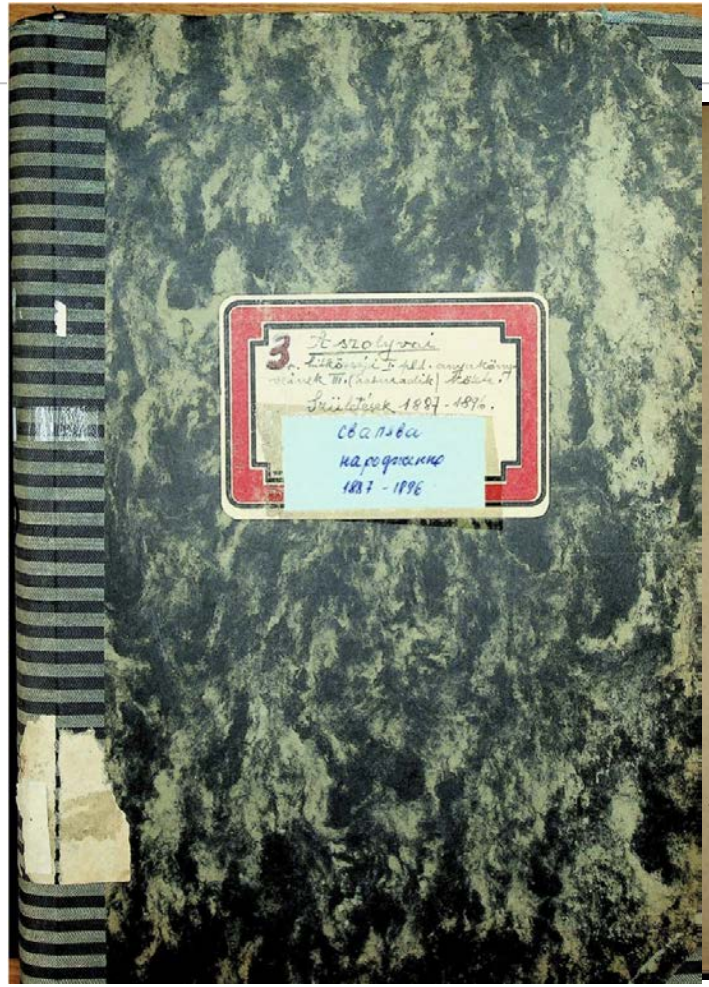
Civil records for formerly Hungarian areas that became eastern-most part of Czechoslovakia after WWI and now in Zakarpats'ka oblast of southwestern Ukraine covering period from 1895 to post-war years.

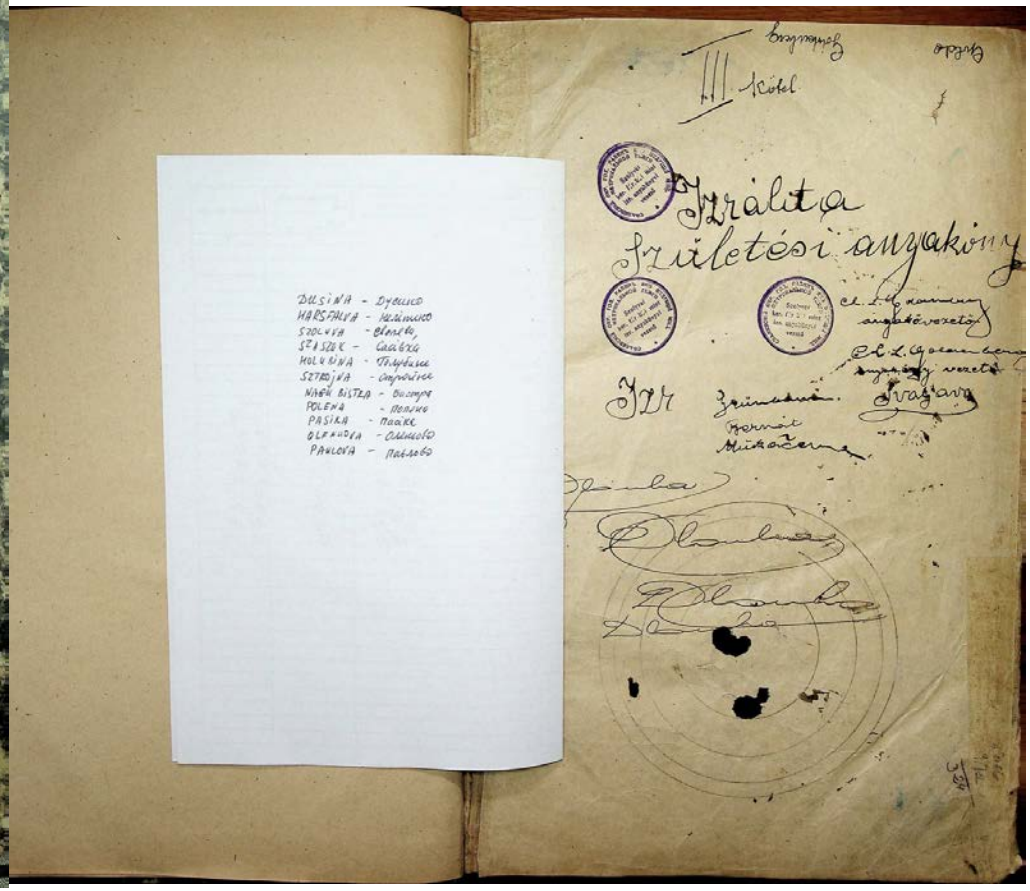
- ✓ Includes parts of Maramaros and Ung as well as Bereg and Ugocsa counties.
- ✓ Records in Ukraine archives include areas now in Slovakia not filmed by FamilySearch or Ancestry



Єврейське містечко [Jewish Shtetls]

- ✓ Alex Krakovsky's collection of Jewish and civil records from Ukrainian archives
- ✓ Jewish metrical records to 1895 [Метричні книги синагог до 1895 року] for formerly Hungarian areas of Trans-Carpathia including:
  - Berehove [Берегове]
  - Munkacs [Мукачево]
  - Sobrance [Собранце]
- ✓ Go to https://tinyurl.com/yc8utxjy and use Google translate to navigate


3
Születések 1887-1896.
Csalsa
születési anyakönyv
1887 - 1896


DUSINA - Дусина
HARSFALVA - Харшфалва
SZOLVA - Сольва
SZISZEK - Сисек
HOLUBINA - Голубина
SZTROJNA - Стройна
NAGY BISZTRA - Бистра
POLENA - Полена
PASIKA - Пасика
OLEXOVA - Олексова
PAULOVA - Павлова
Születési anyakönyv

Hungary Holocaust Databases
<https://www.jewishgen.org/RD/Holocaust/databases.php>





- ✓ Links to Yad Vashem Central Database
- ✓ USC Shoah Foundation testimonies
- ✓ Yizkor Book necrologies and community histories
- ✓ Slovak Jewish Census (1941) listing Jews before deportations
- ✓ Holocaust Memorial Database with names from memorials in present-day Hungary, Romania, Slovakia, and Ukraine towns
- ✓ Wallenberg and Sanz Briz lists of Budapest residents under protection of Swedish and Spanish legations
- ✓ Index of Jews in Theresienstadt ghetto
- ✓ KMSZ forced labor list from Nevek

JewishGen Online Worldwide Burial Registry (JOWBR) <https://www.jewishgen.org/databases/Cemetery/>

Burial records and many headstone photos from cemeteries in Slovakia, Transylvania, Hungary, and Ukraine including:

- Hungary (341 cemeteries)
- Formerly Hungarian areas in:
  - ✓ Romania (88 cemeteries in Crisana, Maramures, Oradea, etc.)
  - ✓ Slovakia (238 cemeteries in Bratislava, Kosice, Sobrance, etc.)
  - ✓ Ukraine (232 cemeteries in Transcarpathia including:
    - Berehove (Beregszasz)
    - Uzhhorod (Ungvar)
    - Khust (Huszt)
    - Mukaceve (Munkacs)



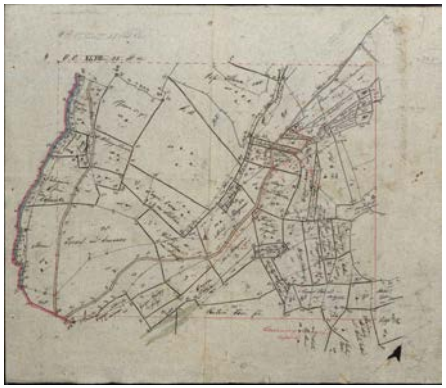


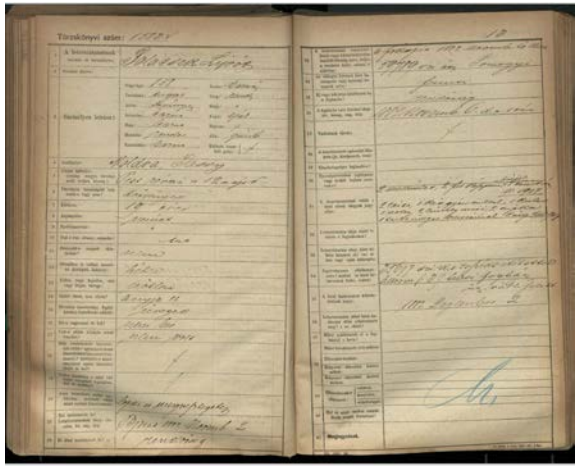
KehilaLinks Websites <https://kehilalinks.jewishgen.org/>

Websites developed by volunteers with JewishGen assistance to commemorate family places

- ✓ Hungary - 21 including Debrecen, Kisvarda, Miskolc
- ✓ Slovakia - 17 including Homonna, Kassa, Nagymihaly, Szobrancz, Sztropko
- ✓ Romania (Transylvania) - Including Ermihayfalva, Nagy-Bocsko, Ruszpolyana and Nagyilonda
- ✓ Sub-Carpathian Ukraine - About 200 including Beregszasz, Huszt, Munkacs, Ungvar, and more
- ✓ Is your ancestral village included?

Hungaricana <https://www.hungaricana.hu/en/>



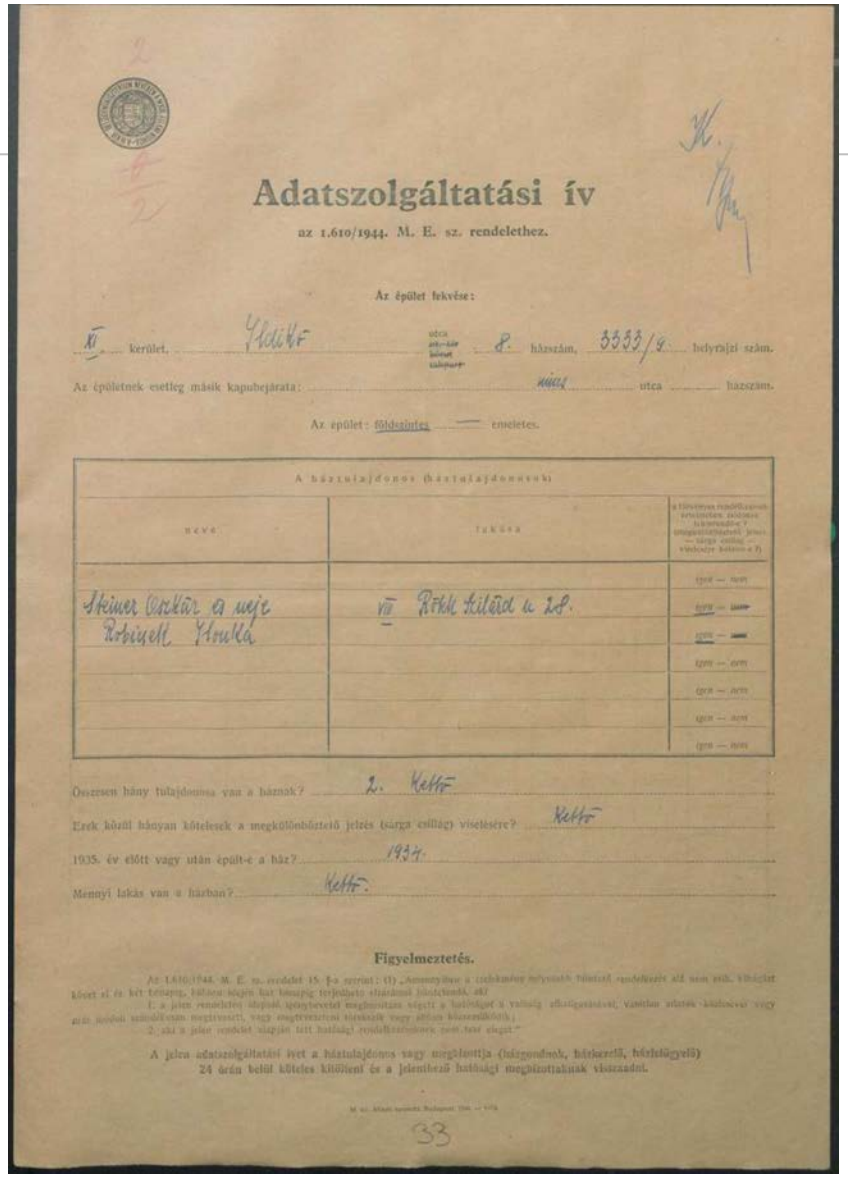


Hungarian Library of Parliament website with vast collection of digitized documents, records, directories, maps and other digitized resources from Hungary and other countries including:

- ✓ 19th century cadastral maps (including some identifying Jewish owners),
- ✓ Legal documents
- ✓ Budapest directories
- ✓ School records and yearbooks
- ✓ Newspapers
- ✓ And more....

1944 Flat Data Sheets

- ✓ Searchable images of 6300 documents from 1944 census found behind wall in Budapest apartment in fall 2015
- ✓ Search by name or address
- ✓ Names and building description:
  - Building height (floors)
  - Date of construction
  - Number of apartments and other spaces (e.g. shops)
  - Apartment with main tenant obliged to wear a yellow star
  - Flat with main tenant not required to wear a yellow star
  - Number of owners
  - Number of owners obliged to wear a yellow star
  - House rating (whether inhabited by Jews)



Adatszolgáltatási ív

az 1.610/1944. M. E. sz. rendelethez.

Az épület fekvése:

XI. kerület, Ydlaki utca, 8. házszám, 3333/4. helyrajzi szám.

Az épületnek esetleg másik kapubejárata: ..... utca ..... házszám.

Az épület: földszintes — emeletes.

A háztulajdonos (háztulajdonosok) neve	lakása	a törvényes rendelkezések értelmében jelzésre kötelezettek jelzése (sárga csillag — viselésére kötelezve e?)
Steiner Oszkár és neje Rosenfeld Ilonka	VIII. Rökk Szilárd u. 24.	igen — nem igen — nem igen — nem igen — nem igen — nem igen — nem igen — nem

Összesen hány tulajdonosa van a háznak? 2. Kettő

Ezek közül hányan kötelesek a megkülönböztető jelzés (sárga csillag) viselésére? Kettő

1935. év előtt vagy után épült-e a ház? 1934.

Mennyi lakás van a házban? Kettő.

Figyelmeztetés.

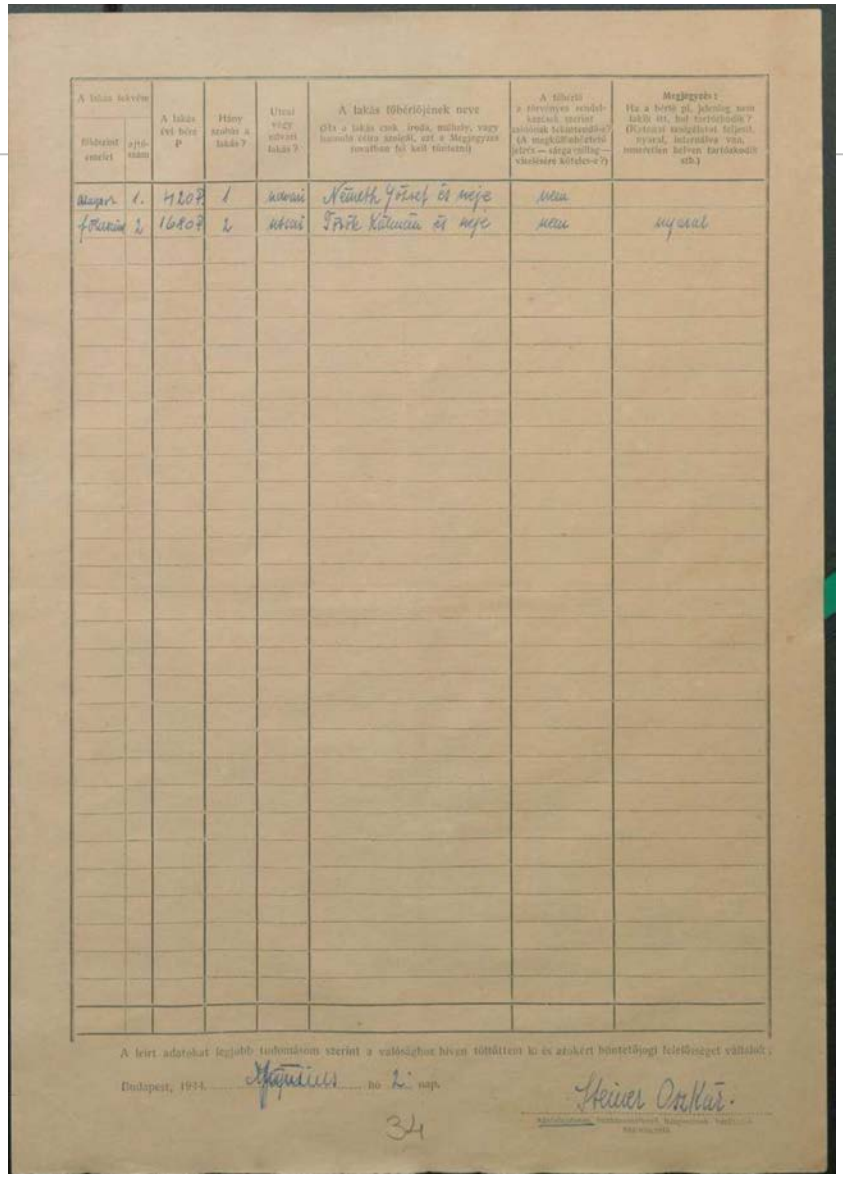
Az 1.610/1944. M. E. sz. rendelet 15. §-a szerint: (1) „Amennyiben a cselekmény súlyosabb büntető rendelkezés alá nem esik, kihágást követ el és két hónapig, háború idején hat hónapig terjedhető elzárással büntetendő, aki

1. a jelen rendeletben előírt igazolvánnyal megbízatása alapján a hatóságot a valóság elhallgatásával, valótlan adatok közlésével vagy más módon tévedésben megtartással, vagy megtévesztési szándék vagy célzat közreműködik;

2. aki a jelen rendelet alapján tett hatósági rendelkezésnek nem tesz eleget."

A jelen adatszolgáltatási ívet a háztulajdonos vagy megbízottja (házgondnok, háziszerelő, házfelügyelő) 24 órán belül köteles kitölteni és a jelentkező hatósági megbízottjának visszaadni.

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A lakás helyzete: földszint / emelet	ajtószáma	A lakás évi bére P	Hány szobás a lakás?	Utcai vagy udvari lakás?	A lakás főbérlőjének neve (Ha a lakás cseh. iroda, műhely, vagy kereskedelmi célra szolgál, azt a Megjegyzés rovatban kell feltüntetni)	A főbérlő a törvényes rendelkezések értelmében sárga csillag — viselésére kötelezve e?)	Megjegyzés: (Ha a bérlő pl. jelenleg nem lakik itt, hol tartózkodik? (Ostrom szolgálatot teljesít, nyaral, internálva van, ismeretlen helyen tartózkodik stb.)
Udvar	1.	4207	1	utcai	Németh József és neje	nem	
földszint	2.	16807	2	utcai	Fürst Kálmán és neje	nem	nyaral

A leírt adatokat legjobb tudomásom szerint a valósághoz híven töltöttem ki és azokért büntetőjogi felelősséget vállalok.

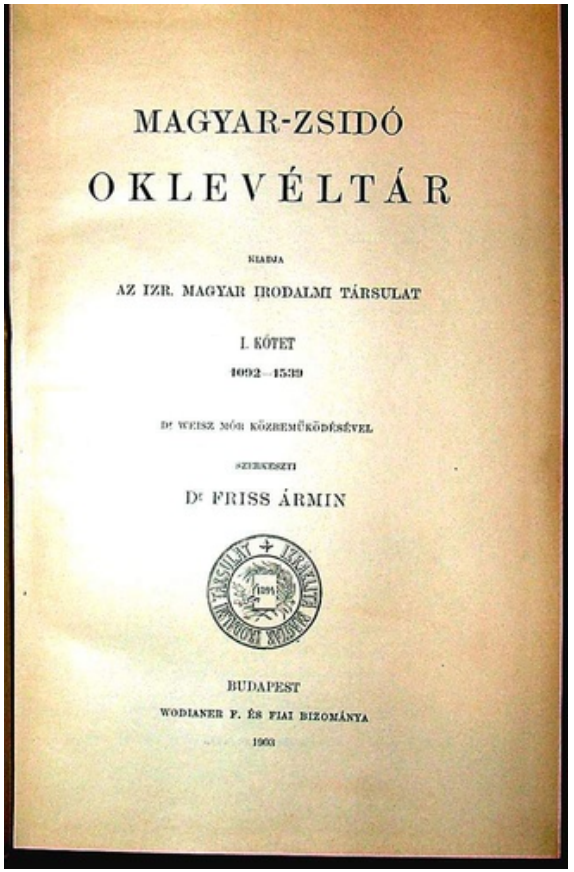
Budapest, 1944. szeptember hó 2. nap.

Steiner Oszkár.

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A magyar–zsidó oklevéltár [Monumenta Hungariae Judaica]

- ✓ 18-volume compendium of documents about Hungarian Jews covering almost 800 years of Hungarian Jewish history and published over 77-year period!
- ✓ Includes census records, rabbinical court records, business transactions, inheritance records, etc.
- ✓ Contents not in chronological order e.g. Vol. III, 1711 to 1740 (1937), Vol. IX, 1282 to 1739 (1966), etc.
- ✓ Text in Hungarian, German, and/or Hebrew


MAGYAR-ZSIDÓ

OKLEVÉLTÁR

KIADJA

AZ IZR. MAGYAR IRODALMI TÁRSULAT

I. KÖTET

1092—1539

DR WEISZ MÓR KÖZREMŰKÖDÉSÉVEL

SZERKESZTI

DR FRISS ÁRMIN

BUDAPEST

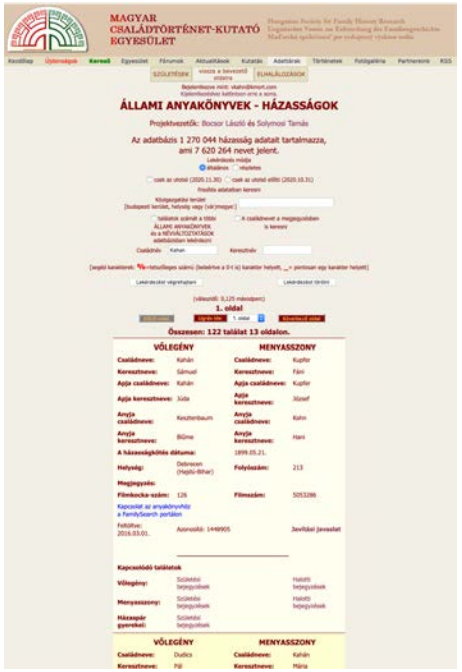
WODIANER F. ÉS FIAI BIZOMÁNYA

1903

MACSE [*Magyar Családtörténet-kutató Egyesület*]

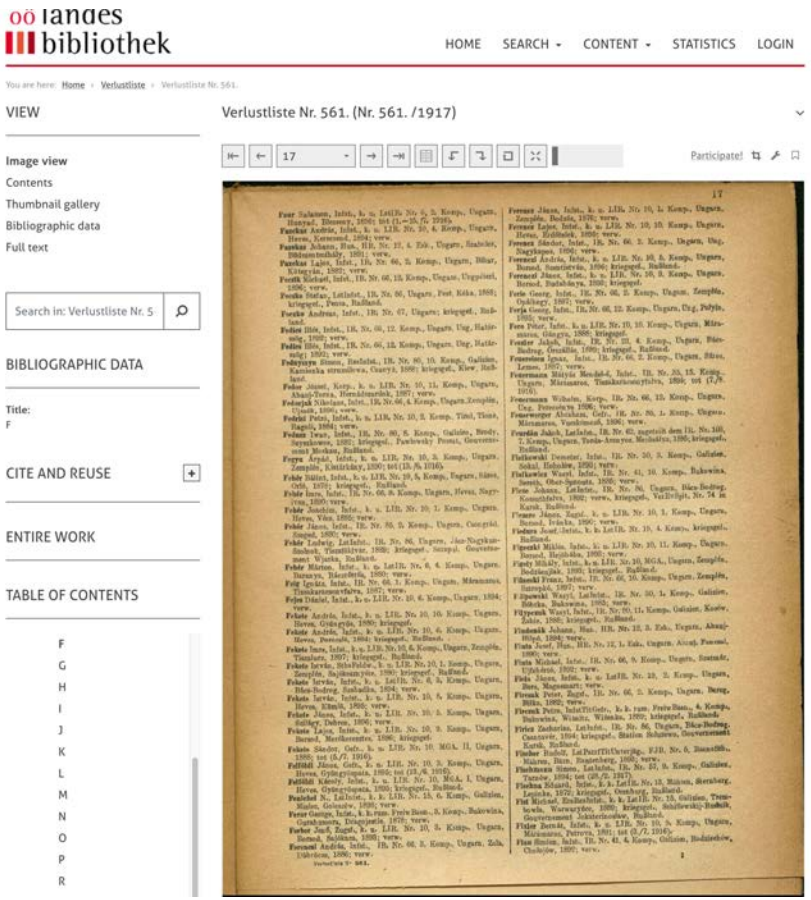
- ✓ Hungarian Society for Family History Research primarily Hungarian-language website
- ✓ Searchable databases include name changes, civil records w. links to record images at FamilySearch.org and other sources
- ✓ $30/year US fee
- ✓ Membership info and application at <https://macse.hu/society/en/belepes.php>





GenTeam

<www.GenTeam.eu>



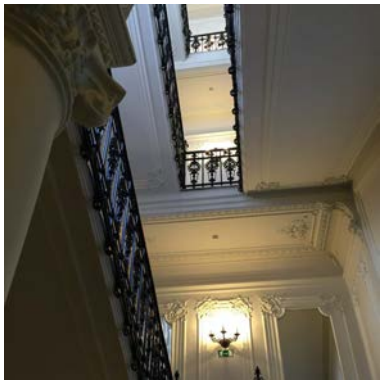
- ✓ More than 21 million searchable Austro-Hungarian records including index to Vienna and Lower Austria Jewish records from Vienna, burials, obituaries, medical doctors, mill owners, etc.
- ✓ World War I casualty lists [*Verlusliste*] with links to page images

Hotels

- Decide where you want to walk (e.g. Budapest's District VII)
- Avoid Marriott, Hyatt, and other non-local chains if possible
- Enjoy the lavish breakfast buffet, which should be enough until dinner with an afternoon refreshment break









Visiting Cemeteries







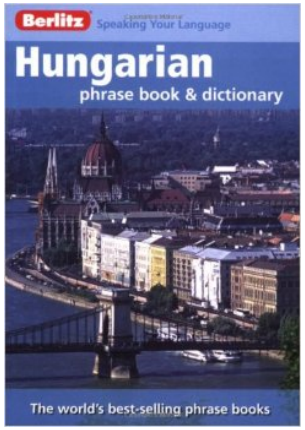


- ✓ Ask older residents about location of “temeto zsido”
- ✓ Wear long pants, sturdy shoes, be prepared for rough terrain and (if possible) carry clippers
- ✓ Sunscreen and hat in late spring or summer,
- ✓ Water to rehydrate and make inscriptions somewhat more legible —DON’T use shaving cream or paint!,
- ✓ Bring cemetery map or list of burials and a cheat sheet if you can’t read Hebrew
- ✓ Check days and hours especially larger cemeteries

Communicating

- Many English speaking Budapest residents but fewer in other cities and not many in Romania
- Bring guidebook and point to words if necessary
- Many desk clerks and restaurant servers have working knowledge of English but best to learn at least a few words!
- Hire guide who speaks Hungarian, Slovak and/or Romanian to assist







Food, Food, Food!

- ✓ Eat local and check where the locals go
- ✓ Check the web but do read more than one review
- ✓ Hotel food may be a really good option
- ✓ Pastries, beer, and ice cream are exceptional and a great snack to hold you over between breakfast buffet (offered in most Hungarian and Romanian hotels) and dinner



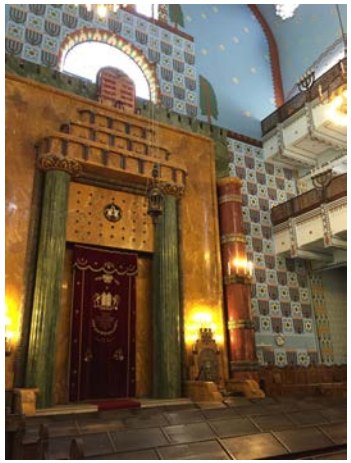


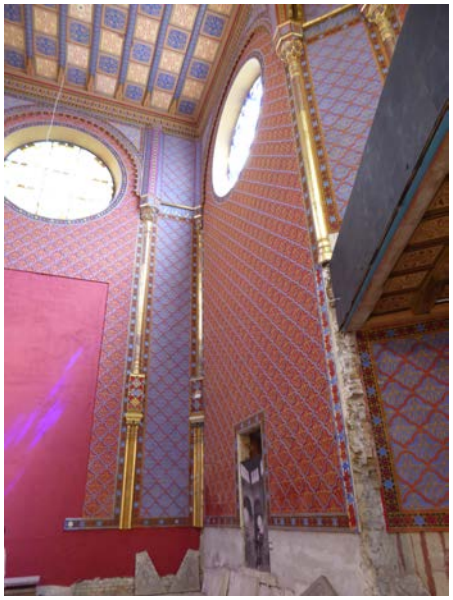




Jewish Budapest















Nyiregyhaza















Jarmi, Olcsva and Vitka















Orașul Nou, Romania















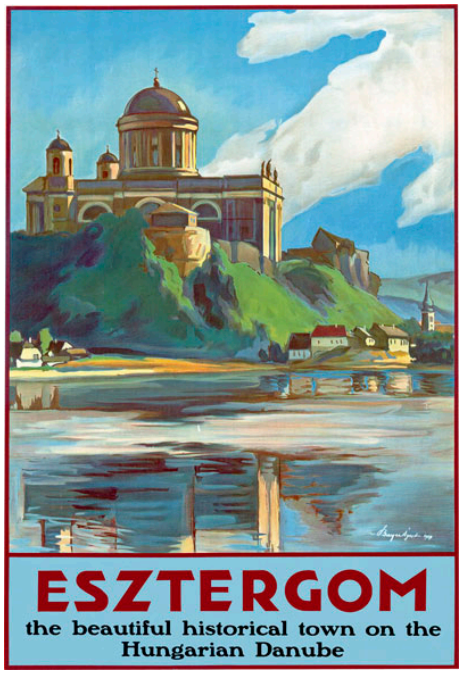
Gifts and Souvenirs

- Check out supermarkets (paprika, pate, candy, etc.)
- Consider wooden eggs, wooden boxes, wooden spoons, table runners, and pillow covers
- Museums and bookstores offer posters and wide selection of illustrated books









Friends and Family

- ✓ Relatives, however distant, are usually very pleased to meet family members and are likely excellent hosts
- ✓ Bring candy, flowers, or local pastry unless you know they drink wine and are familiar with Hungarian or Romanian labels
- ✓ Share your pictures and do ask questions to augment your research











Köszönöm szépen, Дуже дякую, Ďakujem ti veľmi pekne, and א גרויסן דאנק!