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MOME HOUSE GUIDE

THIS GUIDE CONTAINS
SUGGESTIONS AND
RECOMMENDATIONS
ON HOW TO FIND
ACCOMMODATION
IN BUDAPEST.

PHOTO: MÁTÉ LAKOS

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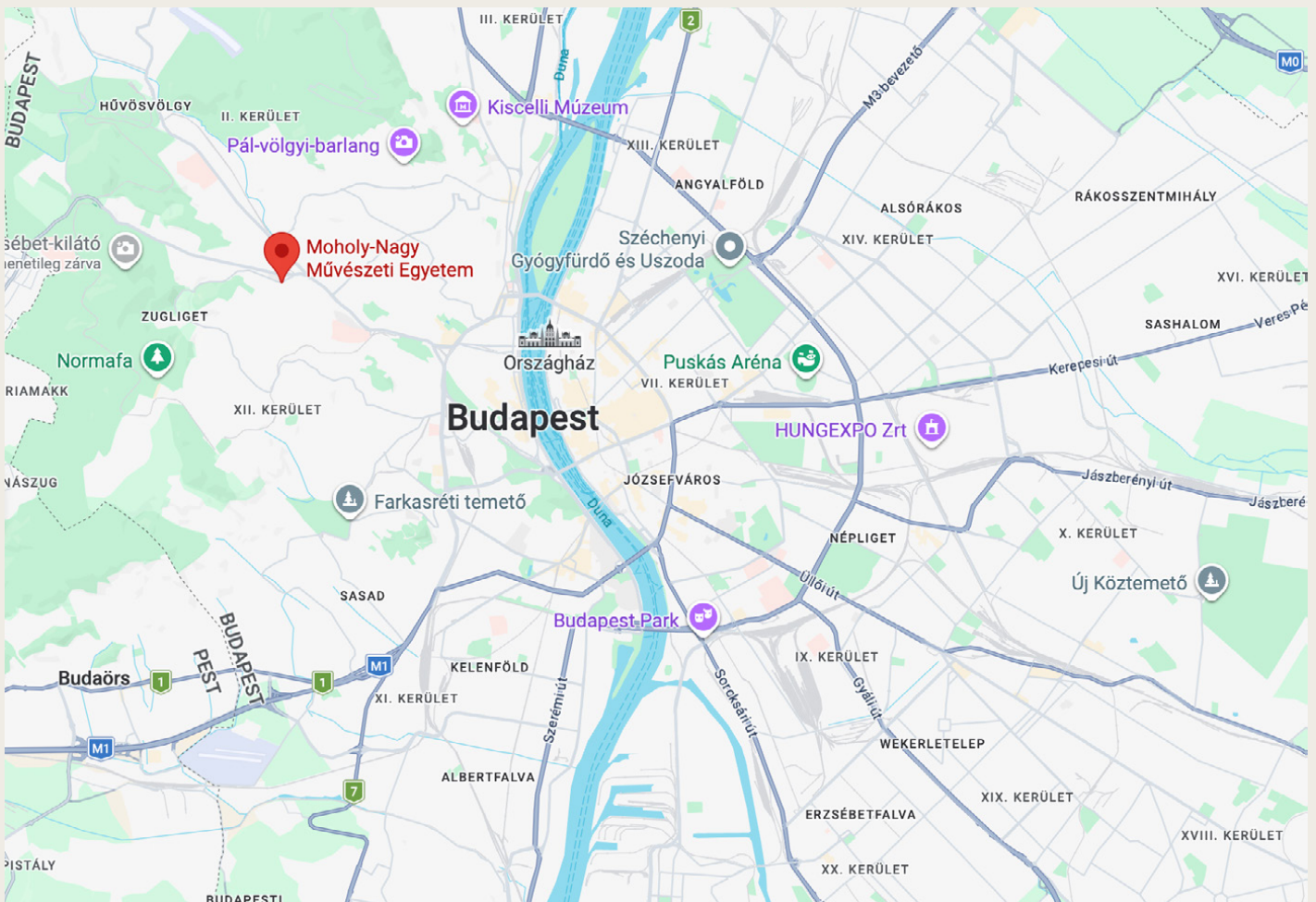
WHERE IS MOME LOCATED?

AN OVERVIEW: THE DISTRICTS OF THE CITY

MOME is based in the Buda side of the city, in district XII. . It borders district II. to the north, district I. (Castle district and Gellérthegy) to the east and district XI. ([Kelenföld](#) and [Sashegy](#)) to the south. This district got its name "Hegyvidék" - Mountainous Area- not by chance! It's the greenest and hilliest suburban area of the city with quiet streets and gorgeous views.

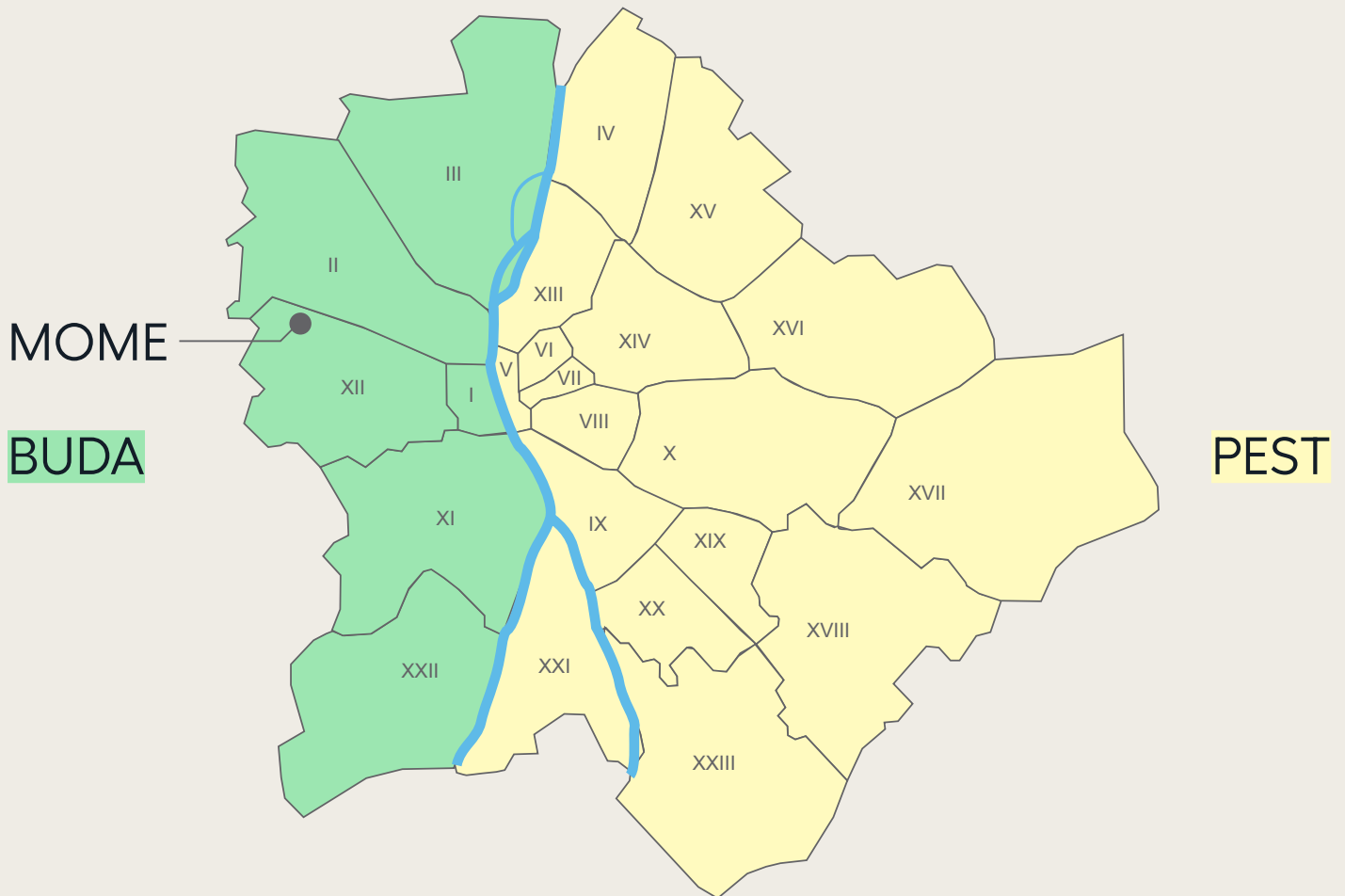
This district is home to Budapest's biggest national park, called [Normafa](#), so if you are into hiking, you will be pleased to be so close to nature. Although MOME is in the heart of a residential area, the city centre is still easily reachable by public transport. At the same time if you prefer to cycle or walk you will also enjoy MOME's neighbourhood.

GOOGLE MAP- SO WHERE ARE WE EXACTLY? MOHOLY-NAGY UNIVERSITY OF ART AND DESIGN



Strictly speaking, the city centre is divided into district V. on PEST side and district I. on BUDA side, however

anywhere within the blue circle you are very much in a central area.



DIRECTIONS TO CAMPUS

Which public transport line should you try to live near to?

- Are any of the metro lines nearby? Metro line 2 will bring you directly to [Széll Kálmán square](#) which is BUDA's main public transport hub. It takes only 5-10 minutes from this square to MOME campus by bus 22/ 22A/ 222 or tram 56/ 61.
- Check if any of the following tramlines are near your potential accommodation: tram 56/ 61/ 59/ 17/ 4/ 6
- Bus 291 comes directly from Nyugati station (West train station) to MOME's main entrance, so if you can reach Nyugati station easily, this can be another route.



PROS AND CONS OF EACH SIDE OF THE DANUBE

BUDA

Choosing Buda, districts I, II, XI or XII will offer you quieter areas with more chances to immerse in the local life. Buda is a lot greener and more residential, but sometimes this can also be reflected in rental prices. Staying in Buda means shorter travel time, (especially if you find a place in the I., II., XI., or XII. districts) and from any direction you can catch a bus or tram to Széll Kálmán tér, a transport junction from where MOME can be reached in www.airbnb.com a short time. Nightlife in Buda involves more locals in their usual bars, or pubs.



PEST

Districts V, VI, VII and VIII are the city's most bustling areas with cool cafés, bars, and clubs and most of the young crowds. If you are after a buzzing urban life and would like to be out most of the nights, Pest is more likely to be right for you. Bear in mind, though, that these districts tend to attract more tourists which can elevate the prices. Coming to MOME from this side would take you between 40 minutes to an hour, depending on where you stay. Generally, rent is more affordable in Pest than in Buda.



WHERE TO LOOK FOR TEMPORARY (SHORT-TERM) ACCOMMODATION

Before signing any long-term contract, it's always best to view the apartment in person.

For your first days in Budapest, we recommend booking temporary accommodation such as a short-term rental (e.g. Airbnb), a hostel, or a budget hotel.

This gives you time to visit neighbourhoods, attend viewings, and choose a comfortable long-term option.

When booking, choose a place that is well connected by public transport (preferably near tram 4/6, metro lines M2 or M3, or major hubs such as Deák Ferenc tér, Nyugati, or Széll Kálmán tér). This will help you reach different parts of the city easily while searching for housing.

Short-term Rentals

- [Airbnb](#) – active and widely used in Budapest.
- [Booking.com](#) – active; excellent for last-minute deals on hotels and apartments.

Both remain reliable and are commonly used by international students.

These hostels have good reputations, central locations, and student-friendly facilities:

- [Avenue Hostel Budapest](#) – popular, affordable, central (Oktogon).
- [Maverick City Lodge](#) – well-rated, located in the Jewish Quarter.
- [Flow Spaces Hostel](#) – clean, modern, close to the Danube.
- [MEININGER Budapest Great Market Hall](#) – hotel-hostel hybrid, very reliable.

WHAT ARE THE OPTIONS FOR LONG-TERM ACCOMMODATION?

Private Dormitories (Student Residences)

Private dormitories in Budapest specialise in hosting international students from universities across the city, such as Semmelweis University, the Budapest University of Technology and Economics, and Corvinus University. These residences provide an instant international community and a more structured living environment.

Most offer single or double rooms, usually with private bathrooms, along with shared kitchens, study areas, lounges, gyms, roof terraces, cafés, or bars. These dormitories often feel like a modern student hotel, and the price range is sometimes comparable to renting a private apartment.

Active and recommended private dormitories:

- [Dean's College Hotel](#) – modern, popular among international students
- [Maverick Student Housing](#)
- [Shantee House](#) – Backpack Budapest

(niche, smaller community)

- [Körúti Magánkollégiumok](#)

Private Apartments

Budapest offers a wide range of rental opportunities suitable for different budgets and preferences.

You can choose:

- a studio for yourself,
- a private room in a shared flat,
- or a larger apartment shared with several students.

Both furnished and unfurnished apartments are available, though long-term rentals (minimum 12 months) are generally preferred by landlords.

You should expect:

- A security deposit equal to 2 months' rent (standard)
- Additional commission fees if renting through an agency
- A signed rental contract, ideally bilingual (Hungarian + English)

Before committing, make sure you understand utility costs, notice periods, and deposit return conditions.

Facebook Groups

Many students use Facebook groups to find rooms or shared apartments. Always avoid paying deposits before viewing the property.

Recommended Core Groups

- Rent a flat / room in Budapest

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/520324544768510/>

- Flats for Erasmus in Budapest

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/erasmusflatbudapest/>

- Budapest flats / apartments for rent – short or long term

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/153178541885896/>

- City Budapest flats for rent and sale

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/696397630465349/>

Additional Student-Friendly Groups (optional additions)

- Flats & Apartments for rent in Budapest (Simmelweis, Corvinus, BME, ELTE)

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/292910121182451/>

- Student Apartments Rentals in Budapest

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/223157075181952/>

- Albérlet Budapest – Egyetemistáknak (Rentals for Students)

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1622542021211479/>

- 3QHome – Budapest Rentals

https://www.facebook.com/groups/2214139388839875/?utm_source=chatgpt.com

Important safety note (for all Facebook groups)

Many groups are still widely used by students, but rental scams are common on Facebook housing groups — always be extremely cautious. Scammers often post fake listings to lure deposits before viewings. It's safest to:

- Never pay any fees or deposits before seeing the flat in person.
- Verify landlord identity and property ownership if possible.
- Meet in safe public places.

Specialised Housing Agencies

These agencies and platforms offer a wide variety of apartments and rooms, and many provide English-language support for international students.

- [SRS Budapest](#) – student-focused rental service with a large database of rooms and flats tailored to students.
- [HousingAnywhere](#) – international student accommodation marketplace with many Budapest listings.
- [Uniplaces](#) – student accommodation platform marketed specifically to international students.
- [Alberlet.hu](#) – major Hungarian rental portal with a large inventory, easy search and English support.
- [Belvárosi Albérletház](#) – centrally located rental building with community spaces.
- [Roomster](#) – global flatshare and room-listing platform (helpful for shared apartments).
- [Flatio](#) – flexible mid-term rental platform (good for some student stays, especially semester exchange).

PRECAUTIONS WHEN LOOKING FOR HOUSING

1. Never sign any contract or send any deposit before checking the apartment in person

Unfortunately, housing scams exist in every large city, including Budapest. Misleading photos, inaccurate descriptions, or nonexistent apartments are not uncommon.

For your safety:

- Always visit the flat in person before agreeing to anything.
- Do not pay deposits, booking fees, or reservation fees before a physical viewing.
- If you cannot visit personally, arrange a trusted friend to view it on your behalf or request a live video call tour (not pre-recorded).

We strongly recommend booking temporary accommodation for your first days in Budapest and searching for long-term housing only after your arrival.

2. Read the rental contract carefully before signing

Take your time to review the agreement and make sure you understand every clause.

- The contract must be provided in English (or bilingual: English + Hungarian).
- Always sign the contract in person and in the presence of the owner.
- Avoid remote signatures, as this may allow the owner or agent to alter the contract afterward.
- Never rent a place without a written contract — you will need it for:
 - Your address registration,
 - Your residence permit application,
 - Your protection in case of legal disputes.

More details about registration with the authorities can be found here:

<https://mome.hu/hu/arrival-and-settling-in>

3. Be aware of agency commission fees

If you rent through an agency, always confirm their fees in advance.

- Some agencies charge one month's rent as commission; others may charge more.
- Ask whether their fee is a fixed amount or a percentage of the monthly rent.
- Make sure the fee structure is clearly written in the agreement with the agency.

4. Verify the landlord and the property details

Before signing:

- Ask to see the owner's ID card and proof that they own the property (e.g., a recent property sheet or "tulajdoni lap").
- Ensure that the person showing the flat is legally entitled to rent it to you.
- Check whether utilities (gas, internet, electricity) are already registered to the owner and clarify who will manage payments.

5. Be cautious with online listings

When using platforms such as Facebook groups:

- Avoid listings with very low rent prices — these are usually scams.
- Do not trust posts that ask for upfront payments or urgent transfers.
- Be careful with new profiles with no activity, fake photos, or stock images.

6. Take your time to make your decision

Housing decisions made in a rush often lead to problems later.

Once you sign the contract, cancelling it can be difficult or costly. Take the necessary time to review the property, understand the terms, and compare your options.

QUESTIONS TO ASK BEFORE SIGNING A RENTAL CONTRACT

Use this checklist when viewing an apartment or discussing the contract with the landlord or agency. Make sure all answers are clearly written in the contract.

- ☐ Contract & Legal Details
- ☐ Is the contract available in English (or bilingual)?
- ☐ Is the landlord present when signing?
- ☐ Is the deposit amount clearly stated (1 or 2 months)?
- ☐ Are the conditions for deposit return described?
- ☐ Do you lose part of the deposit if you leave earlier?
- ☐ How long is the notice period for ending the contract?
- ☐ Can you extend the contract if you want to stay longer?
- ☐ Are you registered properly for your address card / residence permit?

Rent & Monthly Costs

- ☐ What is included in the rent?
 - Utilities (electricity, gas, heating, water)?
 - Internet?
 - Rubbish collection?
 - Common building fees?
- ☐ Are additional costs fixed or based on usage?
- ☐ How and when is rent paid (bank transfer / cash / due date)?

Household & Equipment

- ☐ Is the apartment furnished, semi-furnished, or unfurnished?
- ☐ What furniture and appliances are included? (bed, desk, fridge, washing machine, oven, AC, etc.)
- ☐ Is Wi-Fi already installed and included in the rent?
- ☐ Who pays for repairs in case of broken appliances or damage?

Rules & Practical Conditions

- ☐ Are visitors allowed? How many nights can they stay?
- ☐ Is the apartment pet-friendly? (If applicable)
- ☐ In a shared flat:
 - Can you lock your own room?
 - Are common areas shared fairly?
- ☐ Can you hang pictures, put up shelves, or make small changes?

Safety & Building Information

- ☐ Is the neighbourhood safe?
- ☐ Does the building have security, cameras, or an intercom system?
- ☐ Are smoke detectors installed?

HOW CAN WE AT MOME HELP YOU?

Although currently we do not have a Housing Office to assist you with privately rented accommodation, we are happy to answer any questions that you may have during your preparations to move to Budapest.

You can reach out to us at erasmus@mome.hu if you are an incoming Erasmus student, admission@mome.hu if you are a full-degree MA student starting one of our 6 English MA's.

Please note that those who are staying at MOME's dormitory can seek advice and support from our Student Services Office: kollegium@mome.hu

Best of luck with your house hunting!

