

IBD 2018 Budapest, Hungary

18–21 October

Location

art'otel by park plaza, Budapest, Bem rkp. 16-19, 1011

Coordinates: N 47° 30' 9.87", E 19° 2' 22.01"

Google Maps: <https://goo.gl/maps/SrRcz6ihT7z>

Organizer contacts

Organizers at the venue will wear a red badge so you can easily recognize us.

24/7 organizer hotline for urgent problems: **+36 30 1608 903** (in case of emergencies call **112** first!)

How to get there

From/to the airport: transfer cars or minivans will pick up all delegates, who have submitted their travel data, and those guests who have booked and paid for the transfer service.

If you arrive before 8AM 18 October, a driver will wait for you with your name on a pick-up sign.

If you arrive after 10AM on 18 October, you will find our volunteers with a Mensa sign in the arrival hall.

If you haven't booked transfer: you can take a taxi or use public transport.

Taxi: exit the terminal and join the queue for the official taxi company (Főtaxi). Freelance taxi drivers will approach you with their offers; these are rip-offs, do not go with them!

Public transport: from the airport, take bus 100E. You need to buy a special ticket from the machine or the counter inside the terminal. Get off at Astoria and go down to the metro. Take line 2 (red) towards Déli pályaudvar for 3 stops and get off at Batthyány tér. The venue is just 5 minutes' walk from here (see map). Please keep in mind that 23 October is a national holiday and there might be road closures or public events. If you are arranging your own transfer for that day, please check this info website before departure: <https://bkk.hu/en/news/> or ask our volunteers!

If you arrive by your own car, please note that the area around the hotel is a short-term parking zone on weekdays, and you have to pay a parking fee. The hotel has about 40 parking lots in the underground garage. If you want park there, drive up to the hotel entrance, check-in, and the bell boys will help you with valet parking.

Registration

A registration/information desk is waiting for you at the venue. Opening hours:

Thursday until Monday between 8AM–7PM.

You will receive your badge and goodie bag here. Non-delegates can also sign up for the different free tours (sightseeing tours etc.) here. You can find the list and description of these tours on the official IBD web site: <https://ibd2018.mensa.hu/eng/programmes>

Please be aware that only registered guests can enter the hotel facilities, except for the meeting itself, which is open to any Mensa member, but subject to availability of seats.

Map with useful places

This Google Map contains meeting venues and basic services and necessities.

->>> [<<<-](https://goo.gl/ukTLr1)

Schedule

IBD events (signup is NOT possible on site)

	Wednesday 17/10	Thursday 18/10	Friday 19/10	Saturday 20/10	Sunday 21/10
9:00–10:45	ExComm members arrive	IBD delegates arrive	Meeting	Meeting	Meeting
10:45–11:00			Coffee Break	Coffee Break	Coffee Break
11:00–13:00			Meeting	Meeting	Meeting
13:00–14:00			Lunch	Lunch	Lunch
14:00–15:30			Meeting	Meeting	Sightseeing tour
15:30–15:45			Coffee Break	Coffee Break	
15:45–17:00			Meeting	Meeting	
17:00–18:00					
18:00→		Dinner, Icebreaker	Evening river cruise w/dinner	Gala Dinner	Helsinki party

Icebreaker (Thursday)

Location: art'otel

Start time: 18:00

Evening River Cruise & Dinner (Friday)

Location: Danube River (transfer provided)

Meeting time: 19:00 (art'otel lobby) / Start time: 19:30

Gala Dinner (Saturday)

Location: Hungarian Academy of Sciences (transfer provided)

Meeting time: 18:30 (art'otel lobby) / Start time: 19:00

Sightseeing Tour

Meeting time: 14:15 (art'otel lobby)

Departure time: 14:30

You can find the detailed programs on our web site: <https://ibd2018.mensa.hu/eng/programmes>

Look for the newest updates at the registration/information desk, and in the official Facebook group:

facebook.com/groups/IBD2018

Non-IBD events (you can sign up on site)

	Friday 19 Oct	Saturday 20 Oct		Sunday 21 Oct
9:00-10:00	Budapest tour	Szentendre tour	Hiking in Buda hills	Castle district tour
10:00-11:00				
11:00-12:00				
12:00-13:00				
13:00-14:00				
14:00-15:00				
15:00-16:00				
16:00-17:00				

Practical info

Weather: average temperatures for this time of the year are between 6-16 °C (43-61 F). Bring rainproof clothing and shoes as precipitation is likely.

Safety: central Budapest is just as safe as any large European city. Watch out for your belongings when using public transport, pickpockets are common.

Smoking: not allowed in bus stops, subways and inside any building including pubs and restaurants. Tobacco is only sold in special shops (see picture and map), not in supermarkets.

Tipping: customary in restaurants, cafés and taxis, normally 10% is expected, unless the bill includes a service fee.

Electricity: 240V, 50/60Hz. 110V devices need a converter and adapter. If you forgot to bring one, you can buy it at the airport or electronics shops such as Media Markt, Extreme Digital and Conrad (see map). We use a European plug (type C).

Internet: Wifi coverage provided at the venue. Many restaurants, cafés and museums have free wifi. 4G is available everywhere including the subway. SIM cards from the EU can be used just like at home. For non-Europeans, prepaid SIM cards are available from all 3 providers. Best offers for each:

- **Telekom:** best offer is 200MB for 533 HUF (1.6€/1.9\$), best value is 1GB for 1640 HUF (5€/5.9\$)
- **Telenor:** best value is 1GB+25 minutes for 1000 HUF (3€/3.6\$)
- **Vodafone:** best value is 1GB for 1245 HUF (3.8€/4.4\$). They have a shop at the airport arrival hall.

Money: Do NOT change money at the airport. The rate is far worse than in the city. The currency is HUF (Hungarian Forint). 1 EUR=320 HUF, 1 USD=280 HUF. In many places you can pay with euros, but the exchange rate is sometimes bad. See the actual rate here: www.xe.com.

You can use your Mastercard and Visa in most supermarkets, restaurants and taxis. American Express is not widely accepted. Cheques are not accepted at all.

When withdrawing money from ATMs, avoid the ones called Euronet: they have rip off exchange rates. Stick to bank ATMs.

If you bring cash and you want to exchange it, Correct Change usually has the best rates. They have several shops (see map).

VAT is 27% and it is already included in prices.

The Big Mac index was invented by the Economist in 1986 as a lighthearted guide to whether currencies are at their 'correct' level. It is based on the theory of purchasing-power parity (PPP), the notion that in the long run exchange rates should move towards the rate that would equalise the prices of an identical basket of goods and services (in this case, a burger) in any two countries. According to the 2018 data, the Hungarian forint is 35% undervalued against the euro. A Big Mac costs 850HUF in Hungary and €4.04 in the euro area. The implied exchange rate is 210.40. The difference between this and the actual exchange rate, 323.99, suggests the Hungarian forint is 35.1% undervalued. What does it mean for you? Hungary is pretty cheap in European comparison.

Opening hours: independent shops are open from 10:00 to 18:00, Monday to Friday. Shopping malls have longer opening hours, until 21:00, and they are open 7 days a week. Supermarkets have shorter opening hours on weekends. You can find many night shops (marked 0-24) that sell groceries and alcohol.

Public transport: The Budapest public transport system is well organized and efficient with 4 metro lines, many trams (including the world's busiest tram line, 4/6), trolleybuses and buses. Our volunteers will help you at the airport and at registration to buy the right ticket and explain how to use it.

You can download the BKK Futár app to your smartphone:

Android: <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=hu.webvalto.bkkfutar>

iOS: <https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/bkk-futar/id916193835>



This app gives your real time information about vehicles and allows you to plan routes.

There is a major reconstruction project going on right now on metro line 3 (blue line). During the day, only the Northern section is affected (between Újpest-Központ and Lehel tér). In the evenings and weekends, the entire line is replaced by buses.

You can buy tickets at the BKK counter at the airport or from machines outside the terminal and at major stations. This is how machines look like:

You can set the machine to English by touching the appropriate button on the bottom of the start screen. Cards are also accepted.

Ticket types:

- single ticket (350HUF, or 450 HUF if you buy from the driver): valid for 1 trip without changes (except on the metro, where this ticket is valid for 60 minutes and any number of changes)
- 10-pack of tickets (3000 HUF): 10 single tickets, cheaper by the unit
- airport express shuttle ticket (900 HUF): valid for one ride on bus 100E
- 24-hour ticket (1650 HUF): valid for all public transport
- 24-hour group ticket (3300 HUF): for 1-5 people travelling together, on all public transport
- 72-hour ticket (4150 HUF): valid for all public transport

Free travel for citizens of the European Economic Area above age 65 with ID card.

Always validate your ticket at the station entrance (metro) or on board (bus/tram). Failure to do so will result in a heavy fine!

Bike rental

The public transport company operates a network of automatic bike rental points (MOL Bubi). You can buy a 24-hour pass for 500 HUF (1.6€/1.8\$) and a 72-hour pass for 1000 HUF (3€/3.6\$). The first 30 minutes of each rental are free. More info: <https://molbubi.bkk.hu/>

Note that Budapest is not exactly a bike friendly place. Watch out for cars!

Taxi

Taxis are all yellow, they have a sign on top and the tariffs on the side. The same tariffs apply with each company. Drivers are obliged to accept credit cards and to give you a receipt. Unfortunately, there are lots of rogue taxi drivers, so be careful, and avoid freelance taxis.

Call your taxi by phone (Főtaxi is a reliable company, their number is +36 1 222 2222) or via the Taxify app.

Useful numbers

112: general emergency hotline (the operator will connect you to firefighters/ambulance/police)

+36 1 4879487: hotel reception

We are here to make sure you will have a great time in Budapest. If you need anything, don't hesitate to ask an organizer! See you soon!

Basic Hungarian

Hello/bye	Szia (see-ya)
Good day (formal)	Jó napot (yow no-pott)
Goodbye (formal)	Viszontlátásra (vee-sont-lah-tah-shruh)
Thank you	Köszönöm (keh-seh-nerm)
This meeting is top notch!	Baromi jó kis találkozó! (bo-ro-mi yow kish tol-alk-cosow)
You're welcome	Szívesen (see-wesh-en)
Where is...	Hol van... (hol von)
How much does it cost?	Mennyibe kerül? (men-yi-beh care-eul)
Cheers!	Egészsegédre! (eh-gay-shay-gad-reh)
My hovercraft is full of eels	A légpárnás hajóm tele van angolnákkal (oh laig-par-nash hoy-ohm tell-eh von on-gall-nock-cal)
Help!	Segítség! (shag-eat-shayg)
Keep calm, I'm a Mensa member	Nyugi, mensás vagyok (new-ge, men-zash vadjok)