

Parliament & Around

LIPÓTVÁROS | TERÉZVÁROS (WEST)

Neighbourhood Top Five

1 Entering the hallowed halls of the **Parliament** (p93), arguably the most iconic of all Budapest's buildings, and making your way to the Crown of St Stephen, symbol of the Hungarian nation for more than 1100 years.

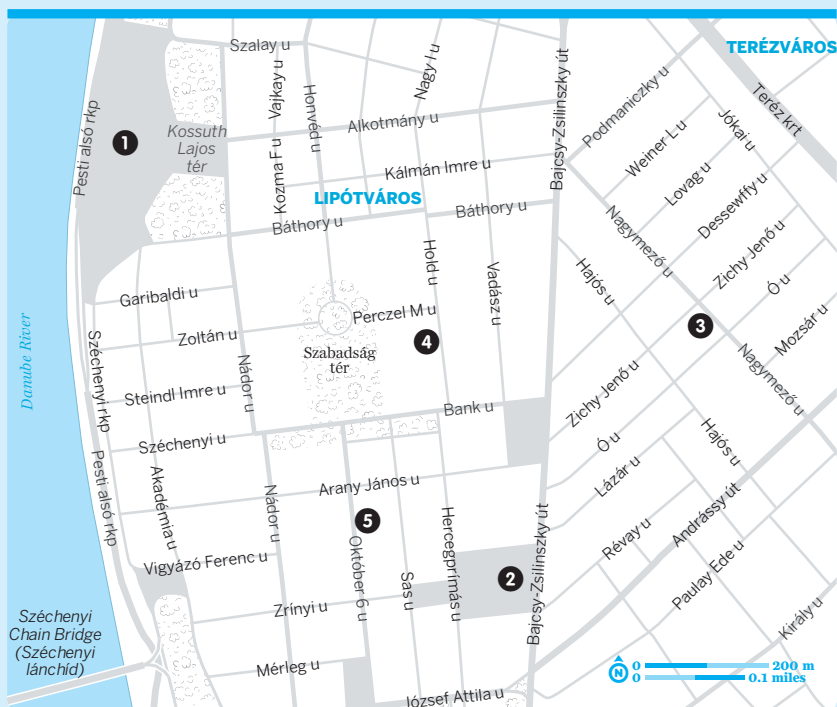
2 Doing the right thing by visiting the **Basilica**

of St Stephen (p95) and Hungary's most revered religious relic, the Holy Right (hand) of St Stephen.

3 Carousing in and around Nagymező utca, Budapest's own 'Broadway' and home to a plethora of wild and crazy clubs, including **Instant** (p101).

4 Ogling the sinuous curves and asymmetrical forms of the **Royal Postal Savings Bank** (p96), one of Budapest's many incomparable art nouveau buildings.

5 Eating at one of the little eateries called *étkezde*, such as **Kisharang** (p98), that serve Hungarian soul food.



For more detail of this area, see Map p244 ➔

Lonely Planet's Top Tip

One of our favourite places to while away part or all of a Saturday morning is along V Falk Miksa utca (Map p244), which is lined with antique and curio shops. Start at the northern end with BÁV (p103) to get an idea of what your average householder might be getting rid of during spring cleaning and move south on to the various other shops, ending up at the mother of them all: Pintér Antik (p103).

Best Places to Eat

- Café Kör (p98)
- Mák (p98)
- Most! (p99)
- Kisharang (p98)
- Fruccola (p99)

For reviews, see p97 ➡

Best Places to Drink

- Instant (p101)
- Club AlterEgo (p101)
- Ötkert (p101)
- Cake (p101)
- Teaház a Vörös Oroszlánhoz (p102)

For reviews, see p100 ➡

Best Places to Shop

- BÁV (p103)
- Bestsellers (p103)
- PannonArts Design Galéria (p104)
- Haas & Czizek (p104)

For reviews, see p103 ➡

Explore: Parliament & Around

North of Belváros, the district called Lipótváros (Leopold Town) is full of offices, government ministries, 19th-century apartment blocks and grand squares. Its confines are, in effect, Szent István körút to the north, V József Attila utca to the south, the Danube to the west and, to the east, V Bajcsy-Zsilinszky út, the arrow-straight boulevard that stretches from central Deák Ferenc tér to Nyugati tér, where Nyugati train station is located. It's an easy and fun neighbourhood to explore on foot and its key squares are V Széchenyi István tér (until recently Roosevelt tér) facing the river; V Szabadság tér, with the only Soviet memorial left in the city; and V Kossuth Lajos tér, fronted by Parliament.

Teréz körút carries on from Szent István körút after Nyugati train station, which is on the M3 metro. The neighbourhood on either side of this section of the ring road – district VI – is known as Terézváros (Theresa Town) and was named in honour of Maria Theresa. It extends as far as VI Király utca and the start of VII Erzsébet körút, but in this section we only include everything up to Andrássy út, the long and dramatic boulevard that slices through Terézváros. Places of interest actually on the boulevard can be found in Chapter 22, Erzsébetváros & the Jewish Quarter.

Local Life

- **Entertainment** Everyone goes to the Hungarian state Opera House; dare to be different and take in a very glitzy production at the Budapest Operetta (p103).
- **Museum** The Ethnography Museum (p96) will take you on a colourful tour of the folk-art heritage and traditions of Hungary without your even leaving Budapest.
- **Eating** If you want to try authentic Hungarian sausage and salami but don't feel up to eating at food stalls, head for the Pick Ház (p99) near Parliament.

Getting There & Away

- **Bus** V Szabadság tér for 15 or 115 to IX Boráros tér and northern Pest; V Deák Ferenc tér for 16 to Castle Hill and 105 to Buda.
- **Metro** M2 Kossuth Lajos tér, M3 Arany János utca and M1/2/3 Deák Ferenc tér.
- **Tram** Pesti alsó rakpart for 2 to V Szent István körút or south Pest; V Szent István körút for 4 or 6 to Buda or Big Ring Rd in Pest.