

Erzsébetváros & the Jewish Quarter

ERZSÉBETVÁROS | ANDRÁSSY ÚT & TERÉZVÁROS (EAST)



Neighbourhood Top Five

- ❶ Marvelling at the exotic architecture of the **Great Synagogue** (p117), the largest Jewish house of worship in Europe, and taking a 2000-year tour at the attached **Hungarian Jewish Museum** (p117).
- ❷ Enjoying a performance at the **Hungarian State Opera House** (p130), the capital's sumptuously appointed temple to classical music.
- ❸ Strolling along **Andrássy út** (p120), the gracious tree-, shop- and sight-lined boulevard that appears on Unesco's World Heritage list.
- ❹ Drinking and dancing the night away at any of central Pest's ruin pubs, such as **Szimpla Kert** (p125), **Lokál** (p124) or **Ellátó Kert** (p126).
- ❺ Tasting something sweet along with something warm on the terrace of a traditional cafe like the **Művész Kávéház** (p129) on Andrásy út.

For more detail of this area, see Map p250 ➔

Lonely Planet's Top Tip

It may not be immediately apparent, but the M1 metro, also known as the Kis Metró (Little Metro), which runs just below Andrásy út from Deák Ferenc tér as far as City Park, sticks to its side of the road underground and there is no interchange down below. So if you are heading north, board the trains on the east side of Andrásy út. For points south, it's the west side. Another possible source of confusion on the M1 is that one station is called Vörösmarty tér and another, five stops away, is Vörösmarty utca.



Best Places to Eat

- ➔ Kádár (p121)
- ➔ Macesz Huszár (p123)
- ➔ Klassz (p124)
- ➔ Zeller Bistro (p123)

For reviews, see p121 ➔



Best Places to Drink

- ➔ Mika Tivadar Mulató (p124)
- ➔ CoXx Men's Bar (p125)
- ➔ Lokál (p124)
- ➔ Alexandra Book Cafe (p129)

For reviews, see p124 ➔



Best Places to Shop

- ➔ Gouba (p130)
- ➔ Printa (p130)
- ➔ Massolit (p130)
- ➔ Szimpla Farmers' Market (p130)

For reviews, see p130 ➔

Explore: Erzsébetváros & the Jewish Quarter

The two main areas that visitors will want to focus on here are the densely packed tangle of streets on the western side of Erzsébetváros, and the environs of long and stately Andrásy út. There's plenty to occupy your daytime in the latter, with a simple stroll along the length of the street, ending at Heroes' Sq (Hősök tere), the best way to get the measure of this part of town. On or just nearby you'll find a number of museums and notable buildings, including the House of Terror and the State Opera House. The eastern side of Erzsébetváros is rather run-down, with little of interest to travellers except the Keleti train station on Baross tér.

The western side, bounded by the Little Ring Rd, has always been predominantly Jewish, and this was the ghetto where Jews were forced to live when the Nazis occupied Hungary in 1944. It's also where nocturnal Budapest really comes alive and you'll find most of its famous ruin pubs and garden clubs. It heaves on weekends with tourists and locals jumping from bar to bar. In the day it's an atmospheric place to wander, with plenty of evidence of the large Jewish community here, and some great shops, cafes and restaurants.

Local Life

- ➔ **Jewish heritage** Visit the area's impressive synagogues, lunch at Kádár (p121), munch on gorgeous cakes at Fröhlich Cukrászda (p125), and listen to some *klezmer* at Spinoza Café (p123).
- ➔ **Bar-Hop** Seek out the smaller, backstreet haunts, away from the crowds, where locals hang out to the wee hours (p128).
- ➔ **Market** Join the foodies getting their artisan produce at the Sunday Szimpla Farmers' Market (p130).

Getting There & Away

- ➔ **Metro** Three metro lines converge at Deák Ferenc tér, handy for western Erzsébetváros; Oktogon is on the M1 metro line and Blaha Lujza tér is on the M2 and M4; also useful are the M2 and M4 Astoria and Keleti pályaudvar stations.
- ➔ **Tram** VII Erzsébet körút for tram 4 or 6 to Buda or rest of Big Ring Rd in Pest.
- ➔ **Trolleybus** VII Wesselényi utca and Dohány utca for 74 to Little Ring Rd or City Park.