



Northern Hungary

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Best Places to Eat

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- Toldi Fogadó Restaurant (p255)
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Best Places to Sleep

- Hotel Senator Ház (p249)
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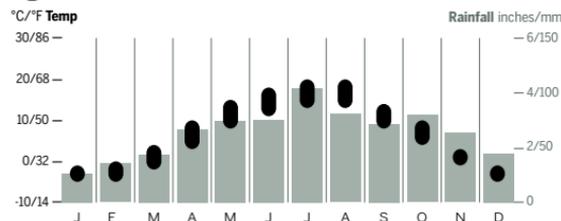
Why Go?

Forested hiking trails, superb wine regions, traditional folk culture and hilltop castle ruins beckon you to what are called the Northern Uplands. In a country as flat as a *palacsinta* (pancake), these foothills of the Carpathians soar above most of Hungary. After exploring Bükk National Park on foot, why not sample the spectacular red wines of Eger or the honey-sweet whites of Tokaj?

As reminders of far too many battles won and lost, ageing castles and evocative ruins punctuate the landscape. This is also a land where the Palóc people hold strong in traditional villages such as Hollókő. If you want to experience village life – steeped in folk culture, replete with horse-drawn carts, dirt roads and tiny wooden churches – the Bereg region in the northeast is the place to go.

When to Go

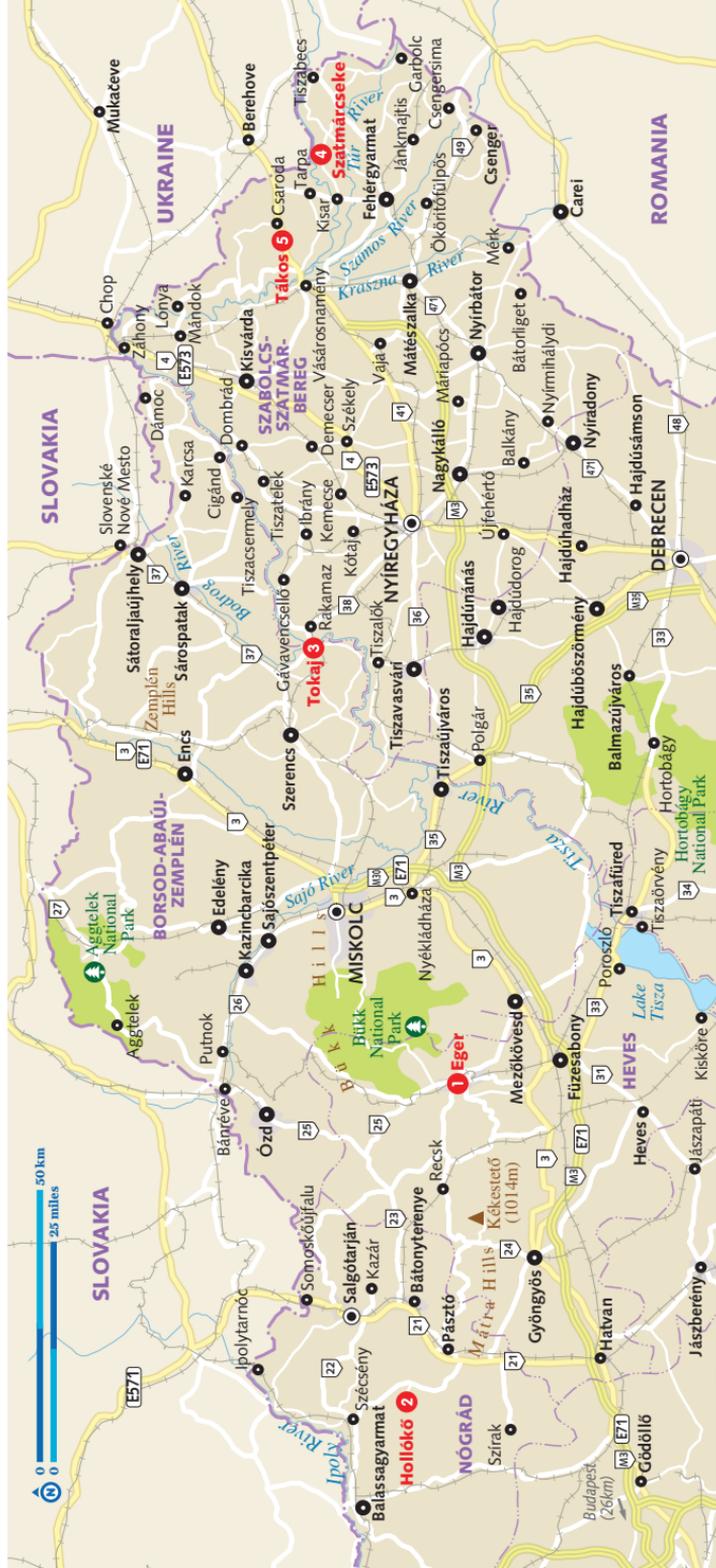
Eger



Mar & Apr Don't miss Easter in Hollókő, when everyone dons their traditional finery for Mass.

Jul & Aug Crowded, but this is the season for medieval tournaments at castles such as Eger's.

Sep & Oct Enjoy the grape harvest, scenery in the hilly areas and autumn colours.



Northern Hungary Highlights

- 1 Eger** (p244) Savouring the unequalled jewel of the Northern Uplands, celebrated for its legendary wine, baroque architecture and easy-going temperament.
- 2 Hollókő** (p242) Spending the night and listening to the silence in this tiny village where folk art and tradition live on.

- 3 Tokaj** (p252) Tasting the famous 'wine of kings and the king of wines' in this picturesque little town.

- 4 Szatmárcseke** (p258) Trying to crack the code on the

boat-shaped grave markers at the village cemetery.

- 5 Tákos** (p257) Marvelling at the patterns of the painted wooden interior in its 'peasants' cathedral'.