



MUSIC CONTACT INTERNATIONAL

Linking the World of Music

CANTATE BUDAPEST 2026

**6 - 9 November
Budapest**



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BUDAPEST

The city of **Budapest**, capital of Hungary, located on the Danube River, consists of two separate centers: **Buda** on the west bank and **Pest** on the east bank, which in 1872 united into a single administrative unit. The origins of the town go back to the Roman period when the legions of the future Emperor Augustus conquered the western part of present-day Hungary in the year 35 and transformed it into a Roman province named **Pannonia**.

Countless monuments and historical buildings are waiting to be discovered by you! In the medieval Citadel, the **Royal Castle** and the **Matthias Church** are located, and in the city park is **Heroes' Square (Heldenplatz)**. Today, the most famous monument in Budapest is the Parliament on the banks of the Danube. From the hill, you have a fantastic view, with an incredible collection of palaces, churches, and monuments that have been declared a **World Heritage Site by UNESCO**.



Hungary has an important musical tradition and has made many contributions to the fields of folk, popular, and classical music. For example, Béla Bartók and Zoltán Kodály, two of Hungary's most famous composers, are known for incorporating folk themes into their music.

Zoltan Kodály's unique method for musical education has been adapted to different cultures worldwide. Kodály was a pioneer in establishing a multidisciplinary dialogue between musicology, philosophy, sociology, and education. The practice and theory he had established were a powerful response to the prevailing social problems and needs of his time. As a musician and educator, he devoted himself to the popularization of community music and choral singing, striving to build a better society.

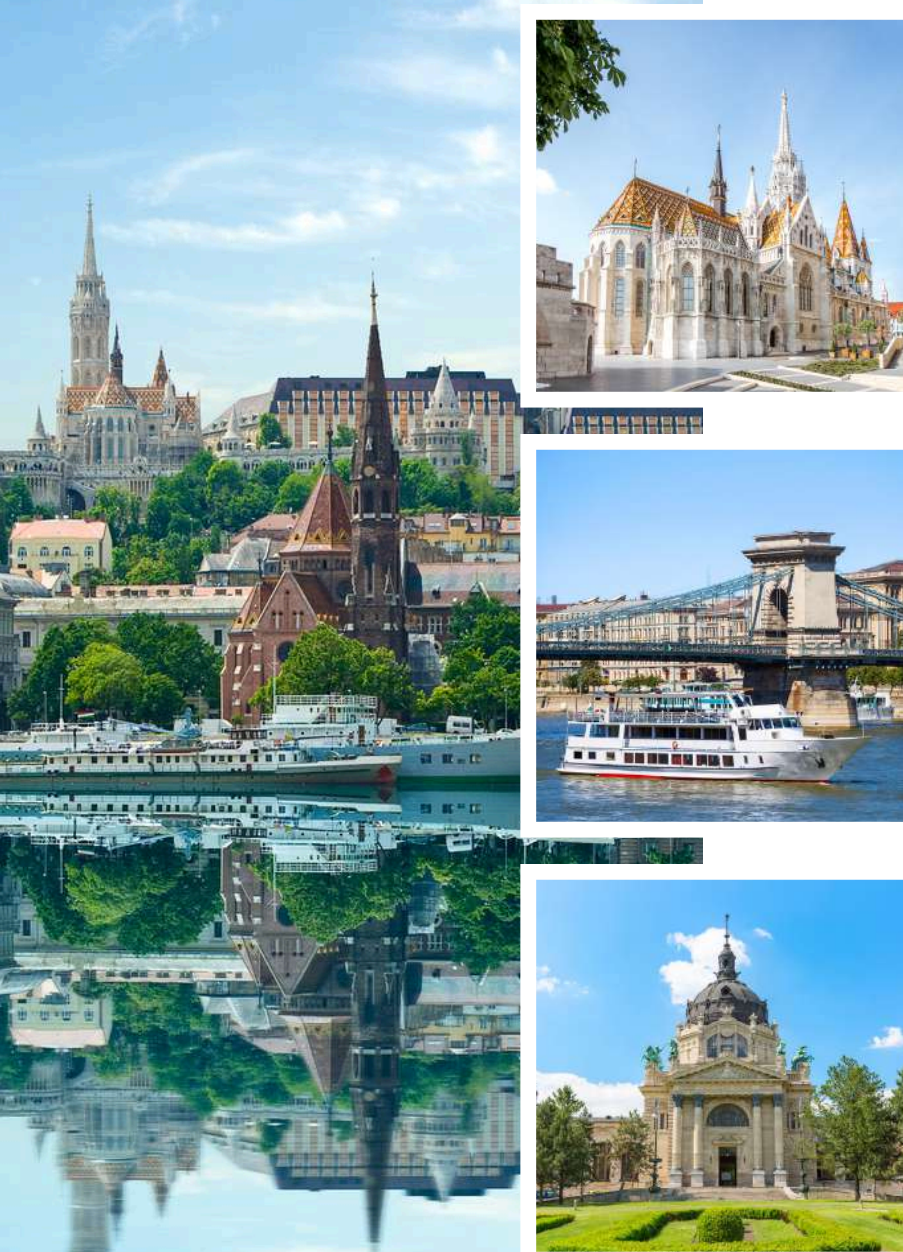


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ITINERARY



DAY 1

Arrival in Budapest in the afternoon or evening.
Greeting by your tour-leader and check-in at the hotel.
Dinner and overnight at the hotel.

DAY 2

Breakfast at the hotel.
Half day guided tour of Budapest. Panorama Sight-seeing cruise on the Danube with Welcome-Drink (ca. 1 hour)
In the evening: a friendship concert will be organised with other choirs. These cultural and musical exchanges will be followed by a friendship drink. Return and dinner at your hotel.

DAY 3

Breakfast. Continue visiting the city of Budapest.
Late in the afternoon the Closing concert will take place in a concert hall of Budapest and gather all the choirs.
Each choir will perform 2 songs. Then, all the choirs will sing the final song together. After the concert, a typical Hungarian dinner will bring together all participants.
Return to the hotel.

DAY 4

Breakfast at the hotel and check-out.
Departure and return journey.

This itinerary is indicative and will be adjusted according to the arrival and departure times of the participating groups. It is also possible to extend your stay or hire additional services.



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Friendship Concerts

A choir from Budapest and surroundings will welcome you for a friendship concert which is a great opportunity for the choirs to meet and share their mutual musical interest. These concerts take place in school, theatres, town halls, concert halls, conservatories or churches in Budapest and surroundings.

Each choir will perform his repertoire (ca. 25 minutes each choir). The choice of the repertoire is free, traditional songs from the different countries are however very much appreciated. The concert will be followed by a friendship drink.

- **Dates:** Saturday afternoon/evening
- **Duration of the concert:** Ca. 1 ½ hours – usually 25 minutes per choir
- **Repertoire:** Free
- **Rehearsal:** On the site of the concert location and in mutual agreement with the "host" choir before

Final Gala Concert

The closing Gala concert in honour of all participating choirs will take place in a concert hall of Budapest. Each choir will perform successively two songs. And at the end of the Gala Concert all choirs will sing together one common song. The musical score will be sent to the choirs a few months before the festival.

- **Dates:** Saturday late afternoon
- **Duration of the concert:** Approximately 2 hours – 2 songs each choir
- **Repertoire:** Free choice, traditional songs from the different countries are however very much appreciated.
- **Rehearsal:** At the hotel. It is not possible on site before the beginning of the concert!
- **Piano:** E-Piano will be at your disposal.

Farewell Dinner

At the end of the concert all participating choirs will go for dinner together in a restaurant. This valuable moment will allow the participants to enjoy a little longer the feeling of sharing and good mood of the final concert and especially to make contacts with the other choirs in a friendly and festive atmosphere.



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