

**Museum of Ethnography
in Budapest
12 reasons to visit**



Néprajzi Múzeum
Museum of Ethnography



1. One of the newest museum buildings in Europe

For the first time in its 150-year history, the Museum of Ethnography has moved to its own building, based on a design by Napur Architect, at the gateway to Budapest's most beautiful park. Tracing a curve of 1 kilometre in diameter, the two wings of the building support a magnificent roof garden. The 7,000 square metres of exhibition space hosts both temporary and permanent displays. The bookshop, restaurant, library, documentation centre, co-working facilities, and events centre make the museum an important venue of the city's cultural life.

2. One of the oldest ethnographic museums in the world

The Museum of Ethnography being one of the earliest specialised museums in Europe was founded in 1872. From the beginnings it has endeavoured to collect and preserve intangible cultural heritage associated with ethnographic research. The Museum has emerged as one of the most important centres in Hungary for museological research and the renewal of ethnographic museology, with an emphasis on the documentation of contemporary social phenomena and the digitisation of its existing holdings.





3. A stunning viewpoint of Budapest

A striking feature of the building is its huge roof garden, which practically functions as an extension of the City Park's green space. It was built by spreading over 3 thousand cubic metres of topsoil enriched with special nutrients on the 'hillsides' of the building, accommodating a variety of plants and trees. A total of 7,300 square metres of park space awaits visitors as a cosy communal space with a sweeping panorama of the City Park and Budapest opening up from its highest point.

4. Immerse in the cultures of 5 continents

Approximately 60 percent of the building is below ground level, where, in accordance with modern museum science recommendations, the world-class exhibition spaces of 7,000 m² are protected from natural light. In the depth temporary and permanent exhibitions reflect Hungarian and global culture presenting treasures from new perspectives. Although the Museum of Ethnography has already presented several exhibitions since the opening of its building, the permanent exhibition of the collection will be completed in 2024.





5. Design and inspiration

The building's glass curtain is covered with a metal grid structure, into which almost half a million pixels have been inserted, based on ethnographic motifs from the museum's collections. The structure encapsulates the work carried out by the Museum of Ethnography over the past 150 years and the ongoing contribution to contemporary culture. The artwork inspired REZIDUUM, a music-based project on ornamentation transcriptions for the Hungarian Pavilion of the 18th Venice Architecture Biennale. The museum's interactive motif creator will also be on display, inspiring creativity with 1001 vectorised ornaments and motifs from the collection.

6. A contemporary treasure trove of past and tradition

Besides its collection of around 226,000 ethnographic objects, the museum's holdings include exceptional photographic and film materials, documents and music recordings. Dating from the 17th century they illustrate everyday life, human existence and community relationships in different forms. Curiosities such as the phonograph cylinders preserving the folk music collections of Béla Bartók can be explored here. A total of 173,000 items from the museum's collections and archives are accessible on the museum's website.

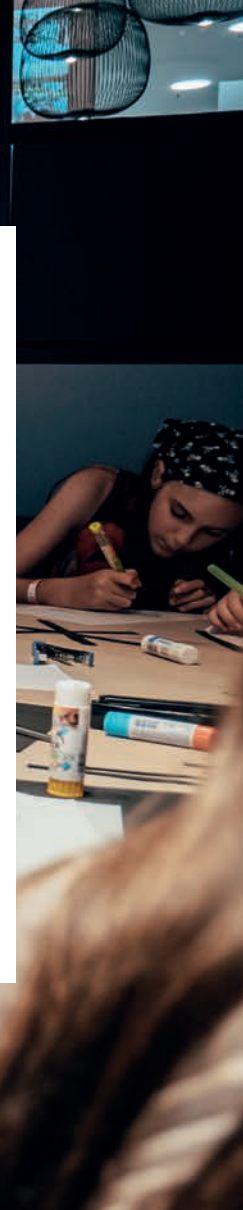
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7. Open museum

The Museum of Ethnography is an open cultural space, where past and present converge, where science and knowledge transmission conjoin, where cultures and generations come to meet and converse. This approach shapes the museum work, the research activities, the objectives and everyday practice. The museum offers participatory projects, co-working office, and for an unprecedented experience, the Ceramics Space, a special display with 4,000 artefacts is free to visit during opening hours.



8. Science hub

The Museum of Ethnography is a place to reflect on, study and exhibit the items of past and present as well as of various social phenomena. It is also the Hungarian center for the fields of ethnography, European ethnology, and cultural anthropology. It also helps other sciences and the arts in comprehending and respecting cultural memory, cultural diversity and changing identities. It has a national role in the field of object conservation and digitisation, is home to the offices of several professional organisations, has a library and archive collection, and its research services make it a major scientific hub.





9. World. Culture. People.

The Museum of Ethnography in Budapest is unique in the way that it has an equal focus on the cultures of its own (Hungarian) nationalities, those of the Carpathian Basin and those of other peoples around the world. For 150 years it has been collecting, preserving, researching, and transmitting the traditional and modern cultural heritage of Hungarian, European, and world communities. This allows one to learn about our shared culture in relation to each other, both in the exhibitions and in programmes.

10. Education and learning

Experience based knowledge facilitates both community and individual interpretations. MÉTA - the name is a reference to a ball game, and also an acronym of the Hungarian words for Museum, Experience, Knowledge and Creation - is the atmospheric space for interactive and communal museum education. In addition to visitors participating in the activities, families and individual visitors are welcome to find themselves a cosy corner in the nooks and crannies of MÉTA to read, watch films, play, create things or simply chat.





11. Relaxation and entertainment

Just like the roof garden, visiting the restaurant and cafés in the building help one to relax. The comfort and community functions, luggage lockers and family rooms throughout the building serve the same goal. The Etnoshop offers a range of individually designed items, while the Etknow bookshop sells specialist publications. You can also download the museum's mobile app, which helps you find your way around the building, provides information and is essential for using the audio guide.



12. What a team!

Let's not forget the team of the Museum of Ethnography, a community of skilled and dedicated professionals and academically qualified researchers working to make the museum's accrued knowledge understandable and accessible to individuals and communities of the present day. If you have any questions, please contact this collective of experienced staff at:

info@neprajz.hu



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See you

in Budapest!



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