

Dear Guests,

The 40. International Chemistry Olympiad, for which over 500 guests are arriving from a great number of countries, is going to be held in Budapest in July 2008.

The program-package of the 40th IChO is organized by our agency for both of the students and the mentors. At the same time we have also had the task to organize a rich program for all the guests accompanying the contenders. We would like to introduce you our country, the famous places, the people, the cuisine...

Please look through the program we have planned for you. We are trying to show you the most beautiful and the most interesting parts of our country. During the whole program you are accompanied by experienced English, German and Dutch speaking travel guides.

The participation fee includes the following:

- airport transfer;
- your lodging in the Danubius Hotel Spa Resort Margitsziget, in double rooms;
- the program detailed below, with transfer, dining and drinks, where noted.
- certified travel guide
- entry tickets

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Engedélyszám: U-000538

12.07.2008.

For the first day we have not planned any organized programs because of the arrivals. But we can guarantee that when you see the location of the hotel, you start your exploration of Budapest with a long walk through the city. The transfer from the airport is organized by our agency.

Dinner is served this evening at the hotel, together with the mentors.

13.07.2008.

After the official program is finished, the 4.5 hours sightseeing tour starts through Budapest by bus. We pass by St. Stephen's Cathedral and the Parliament, then through the Margaret Bridge to Buda, where - after going along the bank of the Danube and the Main Street - we reach the Castle District. The first stop will be the Castle of Buda, where we walk to the most famous buildings of the Castle, to Matthias Church and to the Fishermen's Bastion. After that we enjoy the breathtaking panorama from Gellért Hill, and then we return through Elisabeth Bridge to Pest. We pass by the Grand Market Hall, the National Museum of Hungary and the Eastern Railway Station, and then stop in the City Park at Heroes' Square. After a short stroll we continue our tour to downtown along Andrásy Street, passing by the Hungarian State Opera.

During the tour the group travels in an air-conditioned bus, with English guidance.

Sightseeing ends around 19.30 – 20.00, after that our guests have dinner aboard the restaurant ship *Spoon*:

Parma ham, peppered musk-melon, rucola salad with parmesan
Grilled steaks, gorgonzola with garlic
Marzipan cake with Valencian almonds and molten Belgian chocolate

Drinks include:

Champagne as welcome drink, 2 glasses of wine, 1 mineral water, 1 coffee.

After dinner we close the evening with a stroll on the Danube Promenade together with our travel guide, then we return to the Hotel.

14.07.2008.

After breakfast the whole-day tour begins to the most characteristic area of our country, the Great Hungarian Plain, the “Puszta”. From the hotel we travel to the Tanyacsárda in Lajosmizse, where we take part in the following programs:

11.00 Arrival at the New Tanyacsárda

The guests are offered freshly-baked “pogácsa” with greaves and peach “Pálinka” (peach-brandy).

11.15 Joint cooking with the guests – Cooking-course

The guests get aprons and knives, and they help in the cooking. They are preparing together the ingredients for the goulash (potato, onion, paprika, tomato, parsley, etc.) and the small noodles. After that we mix the ingredients for the milky-pie, and we bake it – of course the cookbook of the Tanyacsárda is indispensable for this work. The jointly-made meals are served for lunch.

12.00 Carriage-drive

Our guests are taken out into the plain by carriages.

12.30 Stud driving, then stroll to the tribune. Horseshow.

Program:

- The introduction of the Lipizzaner stud.
- Procession of the attendance, salutation of the guests
- Show of the “pusztaötös”
- Wrangler-show, horse-laying, horse-sitting, whip-snapping, wrangler-contest
- Obstacle races with four-in-hand,
- Donkey-training
- Playful contest together with the guests: bottle hitting with the whip, donkey-carriage driving

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- Stroll to the fold of the “racka” sheep and to the Hungarian grey cattle

Lunch in the restaurant of the Tanyacsárda:

Wrangler menu:

Goulash cooked in a stew-pot on an open fire
Wrangler platter: grilled pork and poultry meat with potato, rice and letcho (dish made of stewed onions, tomatoes, and paprika)
Farm-salad
Flaming milky-pie, fruits
Coffee with milk,
White & red wine from caraf, icy water

Folklore-programme:

During lunch our guests are entertained by folklore-programme and gypsy music. Our dancers perform Hungarian dances from Kalocsa and gypsy dances. Of course this programme would not be complete without the bottle-dance of the girls, the wooden spoon dance of the lads, and the kissing shawl-dance. The programme ends with a game together with the guests and group-dancing.

15.00 Plains-Olympiad – Game with 6 events

The guests are divided into 3 groups which contest with each other.

- Wheelbarrow pushing
- Horseshoe throwing
- Bottle hitting with whip
- Puszta-skiing
- Jumping in sacks
- Sampling tube contest

After the games there is an awarding ceremony.

16.00 Snack

Snack menu I.

- Cold farmer-platter: home made ham, sausage, salami, cheese, curd cheese with paprika
- 2 dl of wine, icy water

Snack menu II.

- Home-made cake with curd cheese
- Coffee or cappuccino, icy water

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Around 17.00 Return to the hotel

Our guests have dinner at the hotel after arriving back to Budapest.

15.07.2008.

This day we would like to visit the “sea” of Hungary, Lake Balaton, which is the favourite holiday destination of the country. Practically the whole shore is tightly packed with settlements, beaches and hotels. Because of the totally different geographical settings of the south and the north side, Lake Balaton is offering very special experience to the visitors, and both shores has its devoted fans.

We set off right after breakfast, travelling along the northern shore to the first stop, Tihany. Here we get off the bus at the abbey and take a guided tour around the abbey and in the small streets, where our guests will have the opportunity for shopping. The ancestor of today’s Tihany was founded in the middle ages, when in 1055 King Andrew I. chose this location as the burial site for the royal family, and he had a monastery built above it, which was populated with Benedictine monks. This marks the beginning of the Benedictine abbey here. From the 13th century the convent of the abbey was an authenticated office (locus authenticus), entitled to make charters and diplomas. The monastery was converted to a fortress during the Turkish wars in the 16-17th centuries, and it was destroyed, but it was rebuilt in the 18th century in baroque style, and since then it has been the symbol of Tihany, sitting over the Balaton on the eastern cliffs of the peninsula. Since a couple of years ago the baroque abbey has been owned again by the Benedictine order, just like the Benedictine Abbey Museum.

The walk ends with a lunch at a local restaurant.

After getting on the bus again we drive to Pannonhalma, where we have a tour with a local guide in the abbey, the library and the vineyard (16.00-18.00).

In 996 Prince Géza settled monks from Bohemia on the Sacred Mount of Pannonia. The monastery was erected in honour of Saint Martin of Tours and became the eastern bridgehead of the medieval European culture as the Prince intended. Even Saint Stephen (1000-1038), the first Hungarian king was a frequent guest within its walls. Abbot Uros (1207-1243), the commissioner of the still existing church fought off the Mongols from the walls of the monastery-stronghold.

At the time of building their church and monastery in the Middle Ages, the Benedictine monks also revived the viticulture developed by the Romans. Pannonhalma had its own winery until it was confiscated by the Communist government after 1945. The monks continued this tradition when on a 2000 square metre plot they built a new cellar and a wine-house in which they have been processing wines since the autumn of 2003. Due to the planting work started in the autumn of 2001, 37 hectare newly-planted, verdant fields and 15

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formerly planted lands are at the winery's disposal. In two-thirds of the vineyards green grapes can be found such as Rheinland Riesling, Sauvignon Blanc and Gewürztraminer, but the traditional breeds of the region (Italian Riesling, "Ezerjó", "Sárfehér") and promising international grapes (Chardonnay, Pinot Blanc) are also parts of their selection. Pinot Noir is the most significant of the purple grapes occupying one-third of the fields, but the winery also has Merlot and Cabernet Franc. The wine-making technology, being relevant to the breeds, enables the winery to produce more than 300.000 bottles of quality wine annually.

After finishing the tour we return to Budapest, and the dinner is at the hotel.

16.07.2008.

This day's program will be most likely one of the greatest ones of culinary experience for the participants.

At 9.00 right after breakfast we set off by bus to Villány, one of the most famous wine producing regions of our country. The trip won't be a short one, unfortunately, it takes about 2.5 hours, so we arrive at Villány around 12.30.

Villány is the home of full, fiery red wines. Nature's beauty, the climate, the diligence, skill and hospitality of the people living here, together with their high expectations made the wines of Villány famous both nationally and internationally. Its sober consumption has a beneficial impact on our health.

Here we have lunch, wine testing and exhibition in the cellar of the Gere Vineyard. After lunch we set off around 14.00 to Pécs, and after some comfortable sightseeing, the group sets off to Budapest, around 16.00. The dinner will be either in Agárd on the way, or in Budapest at the Hotel.

17.07.2008.

This day the evening program on the ships (Re-Union Party) starts at 18.00, and there are no organized programs planned. We can offer optional programs if needed, for which you can register after your arrival.

18.07.2008.

This day we visit the Danube Bend next to Budapest. After breakfast we set off to Szentendre, and make a long walk to experience the unique atmosphere of the downtown. Then we travel by bus to the Open-air Museum Village, also known as the "Skanzen", which displays the various architectural and ethnographical characteristics of the Hungarian regions at one place. We have lunch in the characteristic restaurant inside the Museum, then have a walk through the various regions of the Museum. From here we travel to Visegrád after

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coordination with the mentors, and watch the knight play in English in the Salamon-Tower, and have a medieval dinner.

19.07.2008.

After breakfast we set off by bus to another famous wine producing region and historical city of Hungary, Eger. After arriving there we have a comfortable walk through the city to learn about the city, the castle and the history of Eger, and about the famous victory over the Turkish forces. Then we have lunch in the Forst House. After lunch we take the bus to the nearby Szilvászvárad, and from there travel with the tourist railway through the National Park to the Veil Waterfall. We walk back from the waterfall, and then take the bus to Hollókő.

In Hollókő first we take a refreshing and appetising stroll through the Old Village. The dinner is served there, at the restaurant Muskátli, where the group is welcome by a woman wearing traditional costume, and offers the guests “pálinka” and soft drinks. “Pogácsa” and mineral water is offered after taking the seats, then the folklore-programme starts: weaving house, traditional costumes, corn-popping.

Soup Palóc style
Roast Pork with French Fries (Pork or Turkey)
Salad
Pancake with apple & cinnamon (1 p.)
2dl wine or beer or soft drink
Coffee

20.07.2008.

Because of the joint closing ceremony this afternoon we have planned only optional programs for our guests for this day.

21.07.2008.

After breakfast continuous airport transfer.

We reserve the right to change the programme!