

# DEFENDING SIGHTS



SIGHTS



1.

## SZÉCHENYI SQUARE

The western walls of the castle built on the bank of the River Tisza in the 13th century were situated in the present Széchenyi Square, while the barren field in front of them served as a main market square and as a practice area for the soldiers defending the castle. Following the Turkish occupation, when Szeged regained its former rights and rank of a free royal city, the City Hall, the administrative centre was built here too. The 19th century reshaped the square both in appearance and function: on the southern side majestic palaces were built, then during the reconstruction following the Great Flood of 1879, the castle walls were pulled down. In place of them, eclectic style residential and public buildings were erected and parks were created. The spacious square, covering more than 50 000 m<sup>2</sup>, is lined by ancient plane trees, magnificent magnolia flowers, empress trees and many other unique plants. Among them nicely made statues make us remember some of the influential figures in the history of the city and the country.



2.

## CITY HALL

The present City Hall is the third building in the same place with the same function. The first building of a modest design was erected in 1728. It was followed by the second one with the same area as the present hall, designed by István Vedres at the turn of the 18th and 19th centuries. After the flood devastating almost the entire city (1879), the square was filled up, so the building became too low and awkward. Ödön Lechner and Gyula Pártos designed another floor and a slender central tower on the original foundation. The neo-baroque City Hall was inaugurated by Emperor Franz Joseph I in 1883, the middle window of the staircase is decorated with his renowned saying: "Szeged will be more beautiful than it used to be". The phoenix in the middle of the pediment symbolizes the revival of Szeged. The Bridge of Sighs, originally built for the Emperor and his escort visiting the reconstructed city, deserves attention as well. In the court with a unique atmosphere theatrical and musical performances await the audience each summer.

The City Hall can be visited by prior registration from April 1 to October 31 on Fridays at 3pm and Saturdays at 10am, and from November 1 to March 31 on Saturdays at 10am.

Registration is possible via email at [szeged@tourinform.hu](mailto:szeged@tourinform.hu), by phone at +36-62/488-699 or +36-62/488-690, or in person at the Tourinform office (Széchenyi Square 12).



3.

## KLAUZÁL SQUARE

The value preserving reconstruction of Kárász Street and Klauzál Square was granted with the Europe Nostra Award in 2004. The downtown palaces display the features of the different competing styles of the time, classicism, eclecticism and Art Nouveau. Their versatile, distinctive nature still creates a uniquely harmonic, well-balanced picture. While having a coffee, a cake or an ice-cream, we can have a look at the full-sized bronze statue of Lajos Kossuth, who made his last speech in Hungary from the balcony of the Kárász House, located on the other side of the square. On the eastern side of the square the harmonic building of the former Hotel Europe can be found as well as the New Zsótér House, which was built on the outer piles of the old castle, and where the operations of the reconstruction were directed from.



4.

## NEW SYNAGOGUE

“Love your neighbour as yourself.” The biblical commandment can be read in Hebrew and Hungarian on the triumphal arch of the New Synagogue built in 1903. The use of the Hungarian language may be attributed to the influence of Chief Rabbi Immanuel Löw, a scholar, who took an active part in designing the building, supporting the work of the architect Lipót Baumhorn with his guidance. The painted glass windows made in the workshop of Manó Róth and the symbolic glass dome of exceptional beauty are unique ornaments of the eclectic synagogue. The interior is dominated by the entrancing harmony of the ornaments in ivory, golden and blue. The Jerusalem marble closing stone of the altar, the door of the Ark of Covenant made of acacia from the Nile region, the menorahs decorated with precious stones, as well as the wall paintings depicting the plants of the Bible all deserve attention. The synagogue with its excellent acoustics is a special venue for high standard organ and light musical concerts.

Jósika utca 10. • +36-62/423-849 • +36-20/432-1532  
[www.szegedizsinagoga.hu](http://www.szegedizsinagoga.hu)

From October to February: Tue–Thu and Sun: 10am to 4pm, Fri: 10am to 2pm  
From March to September: Tue–Fri, Sun: 10am to 4pm  
Closed on Mondays, Saturdays, and Jewish holidays.



## REÖK PALACE

The architect Ede Magyar was thirty in 1907, when he constructed Reök Palace, an exemplary piece of Hungarian Art Nouveau. As he was entrusted by the water engineer Iván Reök, Mihály Munkácsy's nephew, water became the leading motif of the building. It is represented by the row of blue water lilies decorating the snow white facade, the balcony rails evoking whirling water-plants and the animated variety of different wall-surfaces resembling waves. The palace, originally built as a residential building, has been housing the Regional All-Arts Centre since 2007. In the last couple of years visitors have been able to admire works by Picasso, Goya, Chagall and Rembrandt, among others at the temporary exhibitions. REÖK is also a popular venue for musical programmes, smaller theatre performances and other cultural events.

Magyar Ede tér 2. • +36-62/471-411 • [www.reok.hu](http://www.reok.hu)  
Open: Tue-Sun: 10am to 6pm

## DUGONICS SQUARE

The square was named after the piarist priest and teacher András Dugonics, the writer of the first Hungarian novel (*Etelka*, 1788). He was a language reformer, creator of numerous terms used in Hungarian mathematical language. His statue, which was erected from public donations, was the first statue in the public places of Szeged. The fountain opposite, inaugurated on the occasion of the centenary of the Great Flood in 1979, is a popular meeting point for the people of Szeged. In the square the principal building of the University of Szeged, the early eclectic palace stands which was originally a secondary school. In front of the university we find the statue of Attila József, who was a student here between 1924 and 1925, and the statue of Albert Szent-Györgyi, the Nobel-prized scientist, who was named as an honorary doctor of the university. At the corner of the square and Kárász Street stands the Unger-Mayer House, designed by Ede Magyar. The lead ladies dancing on the dome of the Art Nouveau palace provide an attraction from a great distance.



7.

## ARADI VÉRTANÚK SQUARE

In the centre of the irregularly shaped square stands the nicely proportioned equestrian statue of Ferenc Rákóczi II, with the slogan of the War of Independence (Cum Deo pro Patria et Libertate), lead by him. We can find the memorial column of the Battle of Szőreg nearby, the marble plaque in front of it commemorates the thirteen generals executed in Arad. The Heroes' Gate is the memorial place of the soldiers from Szeged who died in World War I. On the arch we can see the war theme frescos painted by Vilmos Aba-Novák. The memorial column of the Revolution of 1956 stands in the square too, reminding us of the fact that the events of October were launched by the movements of the students in Szeged. The square is surrounded by several buildings of the university, among which the most important is the building of the Faculty of Science and Informatics, the former piarist grammar school, where Gyula Juhász, one of the most well-known poets of Szeged, studied.



8.

## RERRICH BÉLA SQUARE

The square was named after the designer of the building complex in Dóm Square, the first remarkable figure in Hungarian landscape architecture, who created the gardens of the bishop's palace and the university in a modern spirit relying on tradition. His ageless genius is also proved by the fact that in an online poll in 2007 the area around the Votive Church was voted the second most well-known architectural wonder in Hungary. There are two unique statues on the sides of the walk leading to the university lecture halls. The original gothic statue representing Saint George the Dragon Slayer by the Kolozsvári brothers is in Prague, the one standing here is a 20th century copy of the work made in 1373. On the other side, there is a marble statue of young men lifting a new-born butterfly representing freedom, which commemorates the revolution of 1956.



9.

## SZENT-GYÖRGYI ALBERT MEMORIAL ROOM

The biochemist Albert Szent-Györgyi (1893-1986) carried on his researches started in Cambridge and Groningen at the University of Szeged as the head of the Department of Medical Chemistry in the early 1930s. In 1932 he identified hexuronic acid extracted from Szeged paprika as vitamin C, then his team developed the paprika-based synthesis of this vitamin. He won the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine "for his discoveries in connection with the biological combustion process with special reference to vitamin C and the catalysis of fumaric acid". Up to now he has been the only Hungarian scientist who was awarded the most prestigious scientific price in the world for his work conducted in Hungary. The memorial room situated in the Dean's Office of the Faculty of Medicine presents the life and career of the excellent scientist – besides his awards, plaques his rector gowns and some of his personal belongings can also be seen by the visitors. In addition, the statue of Albert Szent-Györgyi which was erected in 2013 at the Rector's Office, on the renewed Dugonics tér, commemorates also the scientist on the occasion of his 120th birth anniversary.

Tisza Lajos körút 109. • +36-62/545-016 • office.aokdh@med.u-szeged.hu  
Can be visited on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.  
Advance booking required. Visit for groups only.



10.

## THE VOTIVE CHURCH

After the Great Flood (1879) destroying the city, the people of Szeged made an oath to build a majestic catholic church. Following a long period of planning and several debates it wasn't until 1913 that the construction started. Being too costly, the original plans of Frigyes Schulek were modified by Ernő Foerk. The Cathedral, which is the fourth biggest church in the country, was sanctified on 24 October 1930. Its architecture is characterised by the mixture of Roman, gothic and eastern Byzantine style elements. Its interior features curiosities like the organ with 9,040 pipes, the image of Madonna dressed in shepherds felt cloak and Szeged slippers, as well as the statue "Christ on the Cross" by János Fadrusz, who won the main prize at Paris World's Fair in 1900. The Cathedral has been broadened with new community spaces since 2016. Among other things, a multifunctional exhibition area received place in the undercroft, and during the redesign of the range of premises below ground level, information desk, pilgrim buffet, art shop and bookshop were formed.

Szeged Cathedral Visitor Centre  
Dóm tér 16. • +36-20/385-5061 • www.domlatogatokozpont.hu  
Open: Tue-Sun: 9am to 5pm



11.

## SAINT DEMETRIUS TOWER

Outside the Votive Church stands the Saint Demetrius Tower, the oldest architectural relic of the city. The remains of the church erected in honour of Saint Demetrius of Thessaloniki living in the 4th century is called the Dömötör Tower by the people of Szeged. Its foundation is from the 11th century, its lower, Roman style part is from the 12th century while its early gothic levels were probably built in the 13th century. During the course of the construction of the Votive Church, the tower, almost pulled down, could survive as the baptizing chapel of the church. It was that time when Vilmos Aba-Novák painted the frescos "Baptism of Christ" on the walls of the tower. In the orders of arches of the doorway stones from the roman era were inserted, above them can be found the 12th century Stone Lamb, the oldest sculptural monument of the city.

For a visit of the tower contact: +36-20/385-5061  
[www.domlatogatokozpont.hu](http://www.domlatogatokozpont.hu)



12.

## DÓM SQUARE

The square with exactly the same area as the Saint Mark Square in Venice (12,000 m<sup>2</sup>), bordered by elegant, northern European style buildings, was designed by Béla Rerrich and built between 1928 and 1930. On the eastern and southern side there are university institutes, while the western side is lined by the buildings of the bishop's palace and the college of theology. The National Pantheon, placed under the arcades, includes over a hundred statues representing the prominent characters of Hungarian history, sciences and arts. The Open Air Festival was first held in front of the Votive Church in 1931. In the past decades after the first, religious themed performance, an abundance of theatrical shows have been amusing the audience in the largest "star-roof theatre" in the country.



13.

## MUSICAL CLOCK

The tunes of this unique piece of art by watchmaker Ferenc Csúry could be first heard at the Open Air Festival in 1936. The music clock on the upper level of the building, opposite the main entrance of the Votive Church is a symbol of medieval universities. Twice a day, at 12.15pm and 5.45pm it shows the school-leaving ceremony of the graduating students at the end of the academic year. Then the eminences of the university council and the graduating students walk around in front of the clock. The basswood figures were carved by József Kulai, whose models were famous Hungarian people, such as Kúnó Klébersberg, András Dugonics, Kelemen Mikes, Sándor Petőfi and István Vedres. The scene is accompanied by the melody of the well-known Hungarian student song "Ballag már a vén diák..." (The old student is saying farewell...). Besides, at every hour the clock plays the song "Szeged hírhős város" (Szeged is a famous city) as a signal.

Out of order during the Open Air Festival.



14.

## SOMOGYI LIBRARY

Károly Somogyi, prebendary of Esztergom, aimed to make a contribution to the "mental" reconstruction of the city in ruins after the flood by giving Szeged his priceless collection of books in 1881. The encyclopaedic library including books on science, religion, languages, as well as fiction comprised 43,701 volumes. After being housed at different places, the collection was kept in the Palace for Public Education for a longer period, then it moved into the new building erected in Dóm Square in 1984. Since its foundation more than 130 years ago, the collection has been greatly enlarged, containing over a million documents at present. Its most precious part is the memorial library with the collection of Károly Somogyi, the oldest piece of which is a codex called Missale Pragense from 1492.

Dóm tér 1-4. • +36-62/425-525 • [www.sk-szeged.hu](http://www.sk-szeged.hu)  
Open: Mon-Wed, Fri: 9am to 7pm • Thu: 1pm to 7pm • Sat: 10am to 4pm



15.

## SERBIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

The Serbian Orthodox Church stands on the northern side of the Dóm Square, close to the bank of the River Tisza. The Serbians arrived in Szeged in the Middle Ages, moving northward because of the invasion of the Ottoman Empire. In the 18th and 19th century they played an important role in the commercial life of the city and the region. Their recognition is shown by the fact that originally they had the right to build a church in the area within the castle walls. We have records of the existence of two former buildings, so the church consecrated in honour of Saint Nicholas is the third in Szeged. The single-nave, nicely made baroque style church was consecrated in 1778. The layout of its interior is in accordance with the orthodox requirements centring the rococo iconostas embellished richly with gold. János Popovics made the icon screen, one of the most beautiful pieces in Hungary.

Somogyi utca 3. • +36-30/528-3030  
It can be visited with registration in advance.



16.

## BLACK HOUSE

The building standing at the corner of Somogyi and Kelemen Street is unique in its style, appearance and location. It was built in English romantic style in 1857 on the base of the designs by Károly Gerster. The name of the house, originally a commercial townhouse, then a casino, comes from the dark grey-black colour used on the exterior earlier. The Black House is a permanent exhibition space of Ferenc Móra Museum regularly hosting temporary exhibitions, too, related to local history. In the upstairs rooms visitors can see exhibition, where the interesting and valuable pieces of furniture and furnishing articles of civic interior furnishing can be admired by them. The junction, where the striking building decorated with a corner tower stands is unique in Szeged, as all of the buildings standing at the four corners were built in the 19th century, survived the devastating flood, and due to their important role in cityscape, all of them are protected monuments.

Somogyi utca 13. • +36-62/425-872 • [www.moramuzeum.hu](http://www.moramuzeum.hu)  
Open daily: 10am to 6pm



17.

## MÓRA FERENC MUSEUM

The most impressive product of the building fever of the millennium in Szeged is the Palace for Public Culture built in neo-classicist style in 1896. The portico supported by Corinthian columns under a pediment and the light-coloured walls reflect the building's dignity. It was originally intended to house Somogyi Library and the city museum. As director between 1917 and 1934, Ferenc Móra increased the number of exhibitions. Being a writer and a journalist as well, the director took part in ethnographic fieldwork and he made his mark as an archaeologist by doing excavations in the larger surroundings of Szeged. Today, the museum offers ethnography, natural history and fine art exhibitions related to Szeged and its surroundings along with large-scale temporary exhibitions.

Roosevelt tér 1-3. • +36-62/549-040 • [www.moramuzeum.hu](http://www.moramuzeum.hu)  
Open daily: 10am to 6pm



18.

## STEFÁNIA AND TISZA

You can see the remnants of the gate Maria Teresia of the former castle behind the museum. Its foundation corresponds to the ground level of the city before the Great Flood. The height of the aggradation is one meter and a half. The walls of the fortress from the bank of the River Tisza up to Széchenyi Square were almost all demolished after the flood and the remaining parts of the building became exhibition rooms belonging to the Móra Ferenc Museum. The Carrara marble statue of Queen Elisabeth by the sculptor Miklós Ligeti is in the neighbourhood. Renewed a few years ago, the Stefánia park is now equipped with modern, spectacular features. The River Tisza is the longest river in Hungary, it has its source in the Eastern Carpathians and it meets the Danube flowing through Serbia. The regulation of rivers was the biggest undertaking in the 19th century. It started in the 1840s on István Széchenyi's initiative following the plans of Pál Vásárhelyi, a hydrographer. The river became navigable, its dried flooding territory was transformed into agricultural areas. Besides advantages there appeared disadvantages as well. The water of a river flows at a greater speed in a straight bed, so dangerous floods are more frequent. The largest disaster in the history of Szeged is the Great Flood happened in 1879, which completely destroyed the city. The present structure of the city with boulevards and avenues is a result of the reconstruction following the flood.



19.



20.

## BEREGI HOUSE

The Berégi House is one of the gems in the splendid row of palaces of the Szeged's cityscape, which primarily is an extraordinary example of the brick architecture and Art Nouveau architectural school. The building is the inspired artistic achievement of Pál Kótay, who, upon the commission of a Szegedian upper vocational school teacher, created one of the masterpieces of the characteristically Hungarian Art Nouveau. His artistic style is well represented by the building, which in its fine details has preserved the outstanding craftsmanship of the local ironsmiths, tinsmiths, carpenters and brick masons. The facade is dominated by the red colour of bricks, the dun-yellow of the clinker bricks and the dark red of the plastered surfaces. The pyrogranite flower ornaments inspired by folk art motifs harmoniously fit in with them. It is worth scrutinizing the magnificent wrought iron ornaments and the finely contoured sgraffito at the bottom of the spire. The ground floor rooms of the building show less of their original spectacle, but the staircase, the internal facade and the circular gallery remind us of a truly fin de siècle spirit.

Deák Ferenc utca 22.

## BELVÁROSI CINEMA

The Art Deco style building of the Belvárosi Cinema (Downtown Cinema) was built in 1920 based on the plans of the architect Endre Sebestyén. Today, it is the only purpose built cinema of the period in Hungary still in operation. The historic building underwent a complete renovation in 2019 and was expended with a VR experience based film history exhibition and interactive adventure park. Equipped with state-of-the-art digital technology and 7.1 and 5.1 Dolby sound systems, the cinema's three air-conditioned screening rooms were named after film professionals with a connection to Szeged. Film critic Béla Balázs's name was given to the 100-seat room and director József Csóke's to the 50-seat chamber room. Located on the ground floor, the main hall with a gallery seating a total of 530 was named after Szeged-born Academy Award-winning cinematographer Vilmos Zsigmond. Besides spectacular, quality commercial films, it also features world movies, Hungarian contemporary movies, a big variety of film history curiosities and live opera and theatre transmissions. Several cultural events are also organized here such as public meetings, literature evenings, concerts, programs for children and psychology presentations.

Opening hours: Film history exhibition: every day 2pm to 8pm  
VR Room: Fri-Sun: 12.45pm to 8.50pm  
Vaszy Viktor tér 3. • +36-20/277-1688 • [www.belvarosimozi.hu](http://www.belvarosimozi.hu)



21.

## SZEGED NATIONAL THEATRE

The theatre opened in 1883 is one of the most beautiful eclectic neo-baroque buildings of the city rebuilt from its ruins. Its splendid elegance was given to it by Ferdinand Felner and Hermann Helmer, two theatre architects from Vienna. The semicircular facade is ornamented by the allegoric figures of theatrical art and we can see the statues of József Katona and Ferenc Erkel in the niches on the two sides. The peculiarity of these two artificial stone statues is that they were made by the sculptor Antal Tápai on the spot. The interior presents baroque impetus and ornamentation as well. The frescoes of the ceiling of the theatre housing 680 people were painted by Zsigmond Vajda. The theatre has three sections – opera, dance and drama – the larger building giving place to operas and major plays, while the nearby smaller theatre in Horváth Mihály Street is a home for drama and The Contemporary Ballet of Szeged.

Vaszy Viktor tér 1. • +36-62/479-279 • [www.szinhasz.szeged.hu](http://www.szinhasz.szeged.hu)

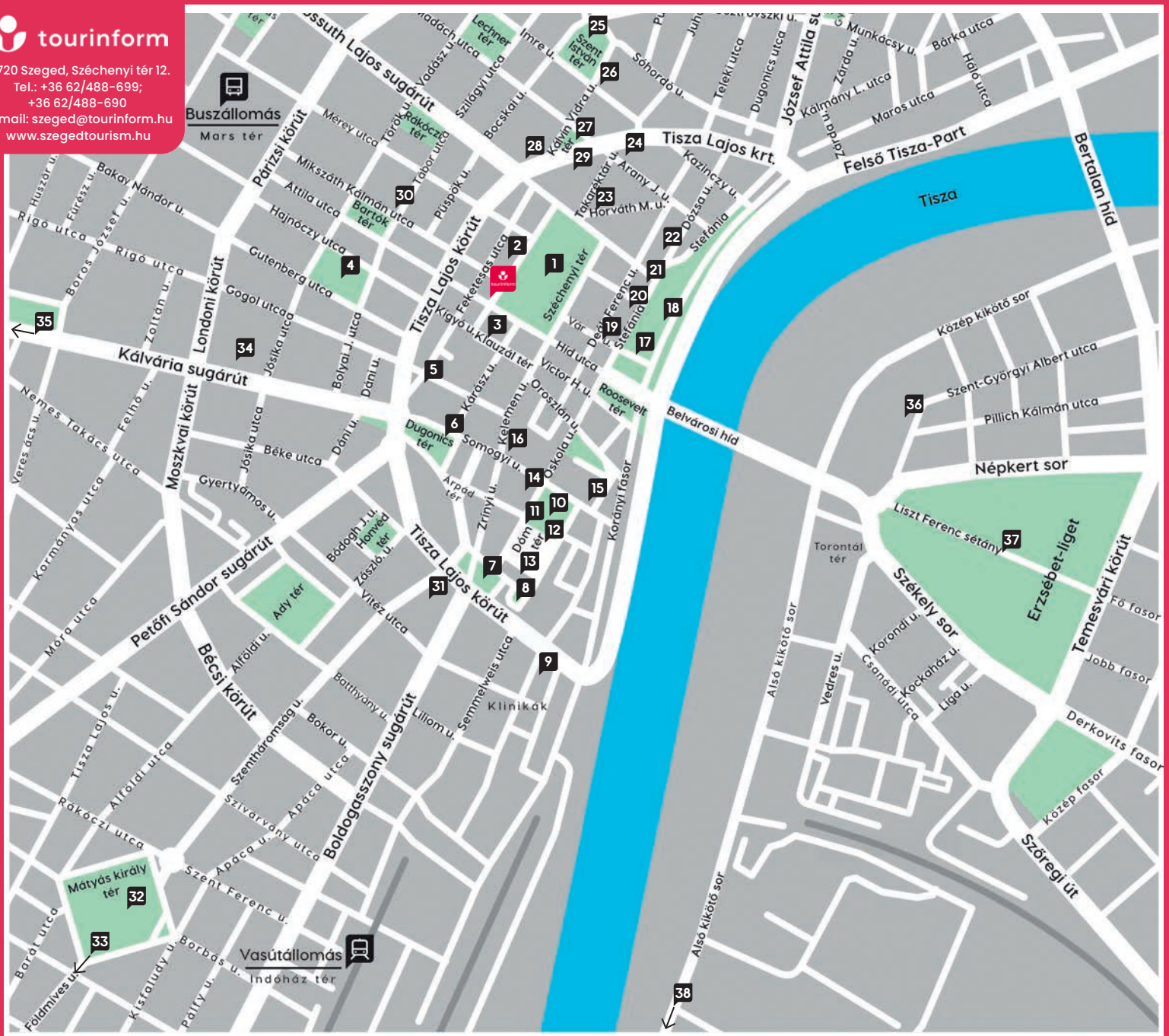


22.

## DEUTSCH PALACE

The palace was designed by Mihály Erdélyi with majolica ornaments in green, blue and orange and built between 1900 and 1902. It is a spectacular example of the Hungarian art nouveau style, the exterior and the staircases designed by Ödön Lechner upon Erdélyi's request. The harmonic combinations of colours being applied on the facade which were brave at the time of the construction are made unique by Zsolnay ceramic ornaments inspired by folk arts patterns. The light blue pirogranite tympan waving slightly among the dynamical friezes of the side wings crowns the front of the building, the ornaments being the balconies either closed and porcelain like or with nicely formed ornamental foliage of wrought iron. The entrance door having wrought iron railing deserves attention thanks to its unique craftsmanship.

Dózsa utca 2.





23.

## FLAT IRON HOUSE

The late Art Nouveau palace, commonly known as the “Iron House” (Vasalóház), received its name from its distinctive wedge-shaped form. The building was designed by Lipót Baumhorn for the Szeged–Csongrád Savings Bank and was completed in 1913; it was the architect’s last work in Szeged. The three-storey building originally housed high-ceilinged shops on the ground floor, offices on the mezzanine level, and spacious apartments with bathrooms on the upper floors. The facades facing Takaréktár Street and Horváth Mihály Street meet at a sharp angle, softened by the curved corner tower. The domed decorations of the Iron House and the bank’s headquarters opposite visually echo each other, creating an almost twin-tower effect when viewed from the square. The facade is enriched with Art Nouveau details such as masks, decorative motifs, curved balcony railings and ornate wrought-iron gates, created by master metalworker György Kónya. Above the ground-floor pillars, embossed copper ornaments feature stylised lily-of-the-valley motifs. Inside the staircase, visitors are welcomed by colourful stained-glass windows.

Takaréktár utca 8. – Horváth Mihály utca 9.



24.

## GRÓF PALACE

The palace is a determinant building on Tisza Lajos Boulevard being the biggest protected monument built in Art Nouveau style in Szeged. It was erected between 1912 and 1913 being designed by Jenő Raichl. It was named after Árpád Márton Gróf, an attorney general of the city. A building was erected with impressive volume on a triangular site being bordered by three streets. Its surface is quite varied being proportioned by frontispieces, balconies and niches. The corner balconies embracing the stories are specially designed. We can see motifs from Hungarian folk art and ceramic wall ornaments besides the blue, yellow and golden decoration on the facade evoking the atmosphere of the East. Wrought iron, used and liked so much by Art Nouveau style, appears on this decorative palace in rails on the windows, flower stands and banisters.

Tisza Lajos körút 20/b.



25.

## SZENT ISTVÁN SQUARE

A nicely created park and a speciality in the history of industry, the country's first water tower made of reinforced concrete awaits visitors in Szent István Square. The tower, which can hold 1004,8 m<sup>3</sup> of water, was designed by Szilárd Zielinski. It was built in 1904 and has been performing its original function ever since. The whole tower was made of concrete, including the front door and 54.9 m high pole holding the flag. Inside the tower renovated in 2006 there is a Foucault pendulum demonstrating the rotation of the Earth, an exhibition of colourful soda water bottles, as well as an exhibition on the history of physics. Climbing up its many stairs, tourists can get a magnificent panorama from the top of the tower. Around the tower we can find the busts of seven renowned architects who made their mark transforming the cityscape.

Szent István tér • [www.szegedivizmu.hu](http://www.szegedivizmu.hu)

Open: From 1 May till 30 September on the first Saturday every month: 10am to 4pm

Groups (min. 10 people) can visit the tower - on Thursdays and Saturdays between 8 am and 1 pm - after prior registration and appointment. Registration and appointment on working days 8am to 3pm: [vizmu@szegedivizmu.hu](mailto:vizmu@szegedivizmu.hu)



26.

## MÓRICZ HOUSE

The Art Nouveau style, four-storey historic building stands on the southern side of Szent István Square. It was built by Jenő Ferenc Raichl, commissioned by József Móricz, a post official, between 1910 and 1912. The house was planned according to the needs of the contemporary upper middle-class. The facade is ornamented with ceramics evoking shepherds sheepskin coat, the walls inside are decorated with Art Nouveau paintings. In the beginning the building had gas lighting and was heated with tile stoves. With the intention of making it modern, they left room for a lift, too, but it was installed only decades later. After World War II it functioned as a council house, its condition deteriorated over time. The house was restored to its original beauty in 2007. The hundred-year-old building presents a nice example of the secessionist architecture of Szeged.

Szent Mihály utca 9.



27.

## PROTESTANT CHURCH

The building designed by Frigyes Schulek, completed in 1884, is also called the “Cockerel church” owing to the figure decorating its tower. Its construction is a nice example of the reconstruction and the cooperation following the flood. The place of the church was chosen by Lajos Tisza, royal commissioner, and the lot was given free of charge to the church. The aggradation of the plot was financed by Gregersen Guilbrandt, a Norwegian builder, who – being a protestant himself – was solicitous about the construction of the church. The small neo-gothic style church was built on a triangle shaped lot. The layout resembles a clover with three leaves, its naves are at 120 degree angles to each other. Opposite the church we can see the Protestant Palace, an eclectic style building by Ede Magyar, from 1911.

Kálvin tér 2.



28.

## REFORMED CHURCH PALACE

In 1909, the Reformed Church commissioned Ede Magyar, one of the most influential architects of the period, to design a building for the plot located at the corner of Tisza Lajos Boulevard and Kálvin Square. The palace attracts our attention mainly owing to its position in the cityscape and of course, to its spectacular facade as well as to its unusual siting. It was built on a pentagonal estate, the wings embrace a closed space in the middle. The courtyard is open, thus entering here in a favourable sun position, we can take delight in the fascinating light-shadow play of the balconies of the curved facade and in the elegance of the masterly executed wrought iron rails. The three-sectional iron gate with its splendid stylization, inspired by religious symbolism, deserves our attention as well. The Baroque like heavy forms of the roof crown the building, the curves stretching across the floors, the wide upper floor string course, the cornice with its capricious lines as well as the varied shapes of the windows and balconies proportionately divide the street front. The characteristic stylistic marks of the Art Nouveau lie in the formation of the stucco ornaments, the patterns and primarily in the two mosaics of the facade, one portraying the mystery of ploughing and sowing and the other depicting harvest. Despite the animation and the abundance of ornaments, the puritan character of the Reformed Church is reflected on the whole building.

Tisza Lajos körút 37.



29.

## ANNA BATH

The white-walled eclectic style building in Tisza Lajos Boulevard, reflecting Oriental effects, designed by Antal Steinhardt and Adolf Lang, was built in 1896. Originally it functioned as a public bath. It took its name from the nearby artesian well drilled in 1927 and its water. The medicinal water was first bottled by Dezső Patzauer. The name of the bath makes us remember his daughter, Anna. The water can be used for digestive problems, applied as a drinking cure, the people of Szeged regularly take it home from Anna Well. The bath awaits visitors with medical treatments, wellness services, as well as offering relaxation on the occasions of night bathings every Wednesday and Friday.

Tisza Lajos körút 24. • +36-62/553-330 • [www.szegedsport.hu](http://www.szegedsport.hu)



30.

## GOLDSCHMIDT PALACE

An early work by Ede Magyar is the apartment building commissioned by Dr. György Goldschmidt. By that time, the young architect must already have had considerable professional experience, as he had begun his studies at the age of 13 as an apprentice under a builder and master carpenter in Szeged. He obtained his master builder's certificate in 1901.

The house on Tábor Street was originally a single-storey building. In 1959, an additional floor was added, and its exterior façade was heavily altered, causing it to lose its Secessionist character. Looking at the plain apartment building today, no one would guess that it was once one of the most significant works of Szeged Secession. At the end of the 1950s, its façade was stripped bare and deprived of its finely crafted decorations. In the entrance passage, however, the stucco decorations have survived in their original form, conjuring an exceptionally rich and truly Secessionist world. The reconstructed gate itself was also a masterpiece of craftsmanship from the period. Within the architectural divisions of the entrance hall, wall panels framed by whimsically winding ribbons, tendrils, and interlacing forms feature delightful dancing female figures. Today, only these details allow us to imagine the captivating elegance that characterized the street façades for nearly half a century.

Tábor utca 5.



31.

## RAICHL PALACE

The palace of Ferenc J. Raichl in Szeged is larger and more ostentatious than its counterpart in Subotica, yet it does not achieve the same stylistic unity or refinement of detail. Nevertheless, it is a striking and imposing building, originally designed by the architect as his own private residence. On the ground floor, there were initially shops with large, floor-to-ceiling display windows, of which today only the entrance preserves something of the original arrangement. Due to financial difficulties, Raichl was unable to complete the building and sold it to the lawyer János Vadász, who ultimately finished it in the spirit of the original plans. After the Second World War, it functioned as a student dormitory, and from the 1970s it housed the Practice Secondary School of the University of Szeged; since 1986, it has served as the institution's main building. Its most spectacular feature is the corner design: the solid mass of the building is articulated by enclosed balconies decorated with majolica, projecting from the plane of the façade. Above them, open balconies line up beneath canopies influenced by Transylvanian architecture, followed by gable fields evoking a corner tower, adorned with Hungarian-style ceramic ornamentation. Rising above the roof is a bastion-like tower, while the side façades are enriched with blue and gold mosaics featuring folk-inspired motifs.

Szentháromság utca 2-4.



32.

## ALSÓVÁROSI CHURCH

The Franciscan church dedicated to Our Lady of the Snows and the cloister nearby are precious architectural heritages of Szeged. The church was erected in several steps in neo-Gothic style, probably using the remains of the first building from the 12th century. It was consecrated in 1503. Its baroque interior dates from the beginning of the 18th century. There are two icons of Blessed Virgin Mary in it, the one carved by a monk called Antal Graff decorating the main altar, the other one named Black Mary having its original in Czestochowa, Poland. The church and the monastery next to it is the second biggest religious complex in Hungary, keeping its original function.

Mátyás tér 26. • +36-20/473-4923 • [www.szeged.ferencesek.hu](http://www.szeged.ferencesek.hu)

For groups (minimum 15 people) and for special tours (in English, for blind or visually impaired visitors), prior registration and confirmation are required, at least one day before the visit.



33.

## TRADITIONAL RURAL HOUSE MUSEUM

The God's Eye motive of the main altar in the Alsóvárosi Church (Lower City Church), the radial lines, became recognizable ornaments of the houses in Alsóváros. The triangle gable of the "sunshine houses" represent the Holy Trinity for religious families. Sándor Bálint (1904–1980), born in Alsóváros (Lower City), was a university professor, excellent researcher of the ethnography and cultural history of Szeged. He studied the religious customs and beliefs of the people living in Szeged and its surroundings. The renovated "sunshine house" gives place for the exhibition on the life of the Southern Great Plain and the consumer goods of the period between the two World Wars. Besides the permanent exhibition the events presenting folk customs in relation with different holidays offer unique programmes for visitors.

Nyíl utca 43. • +36-30/501-2822 • szegedalsovarosi.tajhaz@gmail.com  
Open: Tue-Sat: 10am to 6pm



34.

## SZENT-GYÖRGYI ALBERT AGÓRA

The centre was opened in December 2012 with the aims of presenting the research results of the region in a simple and understandable way and directing children's attention to natural sciences. The new building of 6750 m<sup>2</sup> is operated by using modern technology, the heat of the Earth and solar energy. Százszorszép Children's House, an important cultural facility of the city also moved here. The Informatics History Exhibition is an outstanding attraction founded and operated by the John von Neumann Computer Society, which presents the relics of computers of the glory days (M3, URAL2, Razdan, Szeged "Ladybird"). On the first floor we can see curiosities which were rarities at the time of their production, too, while the rooms on the second floor exhibit 20<sup>th</sup> century mass-produced computers still able to work. The laboratories were designed to show the interesting features of natural sciences to both young and adult visitors.

Kálvária sugárút 23. • +36-62/563-480  
www.agoraszeged.hu • www.ajovomultja.hu

Opening hours: Mon-Fri: 8am to 8pm, Sat: 8am to 4pm, Sun: according to events.



35.

## ZOO SZEGED

The Zoo of Szeged, 45 hectares located in wooded environment only 2,5 km from the city center, offers even one-day programs to visitors. It features animals according to continents, trying to provide their natural environment and living conditions. Nature protection, education and managing endangered species within international conservation breeding programs are top priorities at Szeged Zoo. Managing endangered species within international conservation breeding programs is an important priority to the Zoo of Szeged. Apart from curiosities like the giant anteater, the tamarins, the fossa and the clouded leopard, visitors can meet popular zoo animals, too, including the meerkats, the giraffes, the Asian elephants since 2018 and, from spring 2020, even Indian rhinos. The Zoo is open every day of the year, and it offers zoo education activities, token feeding sessions and even night tours.

Szél utca 90. • +36-62/542-530 • [www.zooszeged.hu](http://www.zooszeged.hu)

Open every day: 1 June – 31 August: 9am to 7pm

1 September – 30 September: 9am to 6pm

1 October – 31 October: 9am to 5pm

1 November – 31 March: 9am to 4pm

1 April – 30 April: 9am to 5pm

1 May – 30 May: 9am to 6pm



36.

## NAPFÉNYFÜRDŐ AQUAPOLIS

The four-season “water-city” awaits its visitors with a water surface of 4,400 m<sup>2</sup> and the longest waterslide working all year round in Europe. The bath complex offers entertainment for all age groups. The main attractions of the facility opened in 2010 are the 223 and 272 meter long giant tube slides starting from a 30 meter high tower accessible with lifts. The joy of sliding is provided for the adventurous visitors by 13 slides, the total length of which adds up to 1,000 meters. The outdoor wellness pool, streaming passages, jacuzzi bubble beds and waterfalls ensure unforgettable entertainment and recreation. Those longing for relaxation and regeneration find ideal surroundings in the “silent wellness” section of the bath. Adventure pools, jacuzzis, massages, Finnish sauna, infrared sauna, Roman steam bath, salt chamber, aroma-therapy cabin and outdoor log sauna are available for guests.

Torontál tér 1. • +36-62/566-487 • [www.napfenyfurdoaquapolis.com](http://www.napfenyfurdoaquapolis.com)



37.

## ERZSÉBET PARK

Situated in Újszeged in the line of Belvárosi Bridge, the largest park of Szeged has an area of 15 hectares. The wilderness of trees and weed thriving at the place of the present park was transformed by Baron Vilmos Reitzenstein, an imperial officer, colonel of the Italian battalion and his soldiers in 1858. They created a spectacular baroque garden, the axis of which is now lined by giant plane trees, the lawns are shaded by old lindens, oaks and maples. It accommodates the smaller stage of the Open Air Festival and some university sports fields. On the side close to the Belvárosi bridge stands the Saint Elisabeth church. Nearby there is an area for relaxation with a fountain. Thanks to the renovation of the Elizabeth Park, new leisure facilities are available for the residents and visitors of Szeged alike. Outdoor gyms, sports fields as well as a state-of-the-art running track await sports enthusiasts. The Park is also well-known as a venue for May Day celebrations and gastronomic festivals.



38.

## BOTANICAL GARDEN

When the University of Kolozsvár moved to Szeged in 1922, the city donated a 28 acre area of agricultural land to establish a botanical garden. The first plants were introduced by the founding director, István Gyórfy. The botanic garden is still owned by the university, as a collection serving education and research, open to the public as well. The garden presents agricultural species in a systematic way, including herbs, dye, fibre and food plants, but it also takes part in the preservation of protected plants. One of the curiosities of the collection is the Indian lotus which arrived more than 80 years ago. In the lake fed by artesian water it found the living conditions appropriate for proliferation and now it represents the largest open-air stand in Central Europe.

Lövölde utca 42. • +36-30/554-9650 • [www.fuvesz kert.u-szeged.hu](http://www.fuvesz kert.u-szeged.hu)

Open every day:

1 April - 30 September: 9am to 6pm

1 October - 31 October: 9am to 5pm

1 November - 28 February: 9am to 4pm

1 March - 31 March: 9am to 5pm

With the exception of Christmas and New Year it can also be visited on public holidays.

# Experiences for the Whole Family

Szeged welcomes families with a wide range of outdoor programmes and facilities, where everyone - from the youngest children to older generations - can find their favourite way to relax in any season of the year.



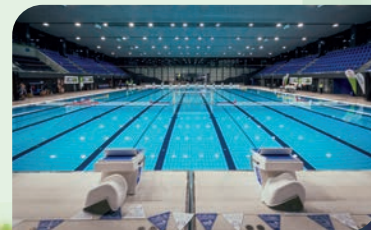
## Kayaking on the Tisza

When seeing the River Tisza, it is only natural to wonder whether it is possible to go paddling for a while. The answer is yes: kayaks and canoes can be rented at the **Szeged Water Sports Centre**, the **Foka Eco Port**, or at **Csónakda**.



## Swimming

Those who enjoy swimming can choose from several locations in Szeged. For a serious swim, we recommend one of the city's most modern facilities, the **Tiszavirág Swimming Complex**, or the **Municipal Swimming Pool in Újszeged**. In addition, an outdoor swimming pool can also be found in the open-air section of **Napfényfürdő Aquapolis** - known locally as SZUE - which can be used in the sunshine during summer and under a dome in winter.



## Cycling

After exploring downtown Szeged on foot and trying some water sports, hop on a bicycle and ride around the city! Thanks to the flat terrain and numerous cycle paths, cycling here is especially comfortable. If you are looking for a touch of nature, follow the banks of the River Tisza: heading towards the confluence, the calm riverside and birdsong soon replace the noise of the city. Bicycles can be rented at the following locations: **Tourinform Szeged**, **Vasparipa**, **Urban Legend** and **Bike Szaki**.

## Walking and Jogging

The renovated running track and outdoor fitness facilities in **Erzsébet Park** provide excellent opportunities for outdoor exercise, whether you prefer serious training or simply enjoy staying active.



# Scientific Experiences



When thinking of Szeged, one may immediately recall Albert Szent-Györgyi, who achieved groundbreaking results in the study of vitamin C during his research in the city. Another outstanding scientist associated with Szeged is Katalin Karikó, whose work - following the intellectual legacy of the city and its university - has contributed greatly to the development of modern biomedicine. **Two memorial rooms dedicated to Albert Szent-Györgyi** can be visited in Szeged. One is located in the building of the Dean's Office of the Faculty of Medicine and presents the remarkable life of the Hungarian scientist. The other exhibition can be found in the building of the Déri Miksa Technical School, where Szent-Györgyi once lived and worked. **A permanent exhibition presenting the life and scientific achievements of Katalin Karikó** can be seen in the Klebelsberg Library of the University of Szeged's József Attila Study and Information Centre (SZTE TIK).

## Szent-Györgyi Albert Agora

The Szent-Györgyi Albert Agora hosts the **IT History Exhibition**, which takes visitors on a journey through time by presenting rare pieces from the history of computing as well as machines that are still operational today.



## Knowledge Base

At the **Interactive Science Centre**, researchers demonstrate the excitement of science several times a day through spectacular experiments, sparking the interest even of those who may previously have been less enthusiastic about this field.



## Sándor Koch Mineral Collection

The **Sándor Koch Mineral Collection**, consisting of more than a thousand specimens, is especially valuable thanks to its remarkable minerals mainly originating from the Carpathian Basin. Guided tours are available upon prior registration.

## Observatory

The **Szeged Observatory** is one of the city's unique scientific attractions, where visitors can explore the world of astronomy through fascinating lectures and telescope demonstrations. On clear evenings, the Moon, planets and distant stars can also be observed with the observatory's instruments.

# Cultural Experiences

The **Szeged National Theatre** is home to operas, operettas and large-scale stage productions, and its striking façade attracts attention even from afar. The **Chamber Theatre** is the smaller stage of the National Theatre, offering a more intimate theatre experience. Cosy performances can also be enjoyed at the **Cellar Theatre** and in summer at the riverside **Water Theatre**.

The **Béla Kóvér Puppet Theatre** is a wonderful programme for both children and adults. Well-known stories and characters familiar from children's books are brought to life on stage, creating a fantastic experience for the whole family.

The **IH Event Centre** hosts numerous cultural programmes as well as professional exhibitions, fairs, business events, theatre performances, conferences and balls. In addition to its own events, the venue regularly welcomes popular guest productions.

The Korzó Music House is home to the **Szeged Symphony Orchestra**, offering an excellent programme for lovers of classical music.

The smell of popcorn is an unmistakable sign that a cinema is nearby. Those who wish to watch films on the big screen in Szeged can choose from several cinemas. At the **Belvárosi Cinema**, visitors can also explore a VR-based film history exhibition and an interactive experience park. The film selection is wide both at the modern **Cinema City in Szeged Plaza** and at the classic **Belvárosi Cinema**, where art films are also frequently shown.



# Adventures on Land, Water and in the Air

Cruising along the River Tisza and seeing the city from the water is a truly memorable experience.

**Sightseeing boats** depart regularly from Roosevelt Square once the warm season begins, travelling up to the mouth of the Maros River and back to Boszorkánysziget. If you would like to try what it feels like to be a captain, you can rent a boat from Foka Eco Port.



Alternatively, if you would like to grill in the middle of the river with family or friends, you can rent a pontoon boat for the entire day - from morning until sunset. A great favourite for both children and adults is the city's small tourist train - often called the "**CsuCsu Train**" - which guides passengers through the city's sights from spring until the beginning of the colder season. The 45-minute tour starts at Széchenyi Square and also takes visitors to Újszeged.

If you would like to see the city from above, there are excellent opportunities for that as well. Aviation enthusiasts will also find their place in Szeged, where the **Szeged Airport** welcomes visitors.





TOURISTIC INFORMATION RENDERING  
ABOUT SZEGED AND HUNGARY  
(programmes, accommodations,  
ancient monuments, museums,  
natural values)

FREE BROCHURES ABOUT HUNGARY  
(in Hungarian and in  
foreign languages)

POSTCARDS, MAPS, BOOKS ABOUT SZEGED

SALE OF CONCERT AND THEATRE TICKETS

BICYCLE RENTAL

INFORMATION ABOUT PROGRAMMES IN SZEGED

GUIDED TOURS IN SZEGED



6720 Szeged, Széchenyi tér 12.

Tel.: +36-62/488-699

Tel.: +36-62/488-690

e-mail: [szeged@tourinform.hu](mailto:szeged@tourinform.hu)

[www.szegedtourism.hu](http://www.szegedtourism.hu)

## IMPRESSUM

**PUBLISHER:** Szeged and Surroundings Tourism Nonprofit Ltd.

**OFFICIAL TOURISM WEBSITE OF SZEGED** [www.szegedtourism.hu](http://www.szegedtourism.hu)

*The publisher cannot be held responsible for the accuracy of the information contained in this publication.*

**PHOTO:** Papdi Balázs, Iványi Aurél, Vadász Sándor,  
Szalai Gergely, Madarász László, Vass Károly

Design & print:  **FINGERPRINT**  
AGENCY