



University of Pécs
1367

2026 SUMMER SCHOOL



Welcome to Pécs

GUIDE

Shared Futures · Psychosocial Perspectives in Times of Polycrisis

Tuesday 15 – Friday 18 September 2026



UNIVERSITY OF PÉCS · PÉCS, HUNGARY

ABOUT THE CITY

A City of Layered History

Nestled against the wooded slopes of the Mecsek Hills in Hungary's sunny south, Pécs is one of the country's oldest and most cultured cities, a place where almost two thousand years of history are layered street by street. The Romans founded Sopianae here, and by the fourth century it had become an important early-Christian centre; the painted burial chambers they left behind form the Early Christian Necropolis, inscribed on the UNESCO World Heritage List in 2000.

Later chapters are just as visible: the Ottoman Mosque of Pasha Gazi Kasim still crowns the main square, the Zsolnay family made the city famous for its iridescent porcelain and glazed tiles, and in 2010 Pécs was a European Capital of Culture. The result is a compact, walkable, almost Mediterranean city of red roofs and café-lined squares, an ideal setting for our summer school.



Golden hour over the Cathedral of St. Peter & St. Paul and the old town.

PÉCS AT A GLANCE

Region Southern Transdanubia, Baranya County

Population approximately 140,000

UNESCO Early Christian Necropolis, inscribed 2000

Culture European Capital of Culture, 2010

The University of Pécs

The University of Pécs traces its origins to 1367, when King Louis the Great founded the first university in Hungary, placing it among the oldest universities in Europe. The institution celebrated its 650th anniversary in 2017 and is today one of Hungary's largest and most international universities.

Ten faculties span the humanities and social sciences, law, business and economics, the sciences, engineering and information technology, health sciences, pharmacy, medicine and the arts, together with a doctoral community drawn from around the world. Its emblem, the geometric rosette of diamonds and crosses, is a familiar sight across the city.



A faculty building of the University of Pécs.

UNIVERSITY FACTS

Founded 1367 — the oldest university in Hungary

Anniversary 650 years, celebrated in 2017

Faculties Ten, across all major fields

Community Highly international, with students from around the world

Getting to Pécs from Budapest

Most delegates arrive via Budapest Ferenc Liszt International Airport (BUD), about 220 km north of Pécs. There is no commercial airport in Pécs itself, but the onward journey is straightforward, allow roughly three to four hours in total. Three options are described below.

1 Direct airport shuttle

Door-to-door minibus straight from the airport to Pécs. Book ahead with operators such as Travel4You. Journey about 3 hours.

<https://travel4you.hu/en>

≈ 21,500 HUF
(one-way)
(≈ €60)

2 By Public Transport – (InterCity train)

Take the 100E Airport Express bus from Budapest Airport to Kálvin tér M. From Kálvin tér, take Metro M4 directly to Kelenföld railway station. From Budapest-Kelenföld, take a direct InterCity (IC) train to Pécs. The train journey is usually around 3 hours, depending on the service.

Please buy tickets (including seat reservations) in advance as seats can run-out! Choose the 1st or 2nd class carriage because the 3rd class is not air-conditioned

≈ 5,000 HUF
(one-way)
(≈ €14)

3 By car

Rent a car and travel via the M6 motorway. A motorway vignette (e-matrica) is required; drive on the right. Valid license, registration and insurance are compulsory.

≈ 2h 30m

GOOD TO KNOW

Airport → city While bus 100E runs to Deák Ferenc tér; Főtaxi is the official airport taxi. To order via app, you can use Bolt or Uber

Money Carry some forint (HUF) for emergencies but cards and online payments are widely accepted.

Bus Tickets: Download the BudapestGO app for accurate travel times and to buy public transport tickets in Budapest.

Train Tickets: To buy the train ticket online here: <https://www.mavcsport.hu/en/> / on-site purchase is also possible)

Tip Give yourself buffer time and pre-book tickets/reservations!

What to See



Cathedral & Dóm Square



The Zsolnay Mausoleum



TV Tower, above the Mecsek Hills

Széchenyi Square

The grand main square at the heart of the old town, ringed by historic façades and cafés.

Mosque of Pasha Gazi Kasim

The 16th-century Ottoman mosque crowning the square — the largest surviving Ottoman building in Hungary, now a church.

Cathedral of St. Peter & St. Paul

The distinctive four-towered basilica, with a museum of medieval treasures and fine views.

Early Christian Necropolis

UNESCO World Heritage painted burial chambers (Cella Septichora) beneath the cathedral quarter.

Zsolnay Cultural Quarter

The former porcelain works turned creative campus, with the porcelain museum and lion-lined Mausoleum.

Tettye & the Mecsek Hills

Parkland, ruins and viewpoints a short, leafy walk above the town centre.

Where to Eat & Drink

Pécs eats and drinks well, and generally at gentle prices. The city sits between the celebrated Villány and Szekszárd wine regions, so look out for local reds; and pause for coffee in one of the Zsolnay-tiled cafés along the pedestrian streets. While lunch, coffee break and a social dinner will be on us, here are a few other places to get you started:

Tüke Borház

Hungarian cooking and local wines in a warm, traditional setting.

Főtér Bistro & Bar

Bistro plates and terrace seating right on Széchenyi Square.

Lezser Bárkonyha

Contemporary cooking with local flavours; try the crispy duck.

Bagolyvár (Owl Castle)

A brick-vaulted cellar restaurant in the Tetttye hills with sweeping views.

Bohemia Sörkonyha

Craft beer and hearty, generous plates in a lively room.

Nappali Bár

A local favorite to enjoy a cold beer on the main Király street.

DISHES TO TRY

Classics Goulash (gulyás), pork knuckle (csülök), lángos, csirkepaprikás

Sweet Chimney cake (kürtőskalács); Zsolnay-café pastries

Drink Villány & Szekszárd red wines; Hungarian palinka; Craft beers

A selection to get you started, reserve ahead for larger groups.

Weather & Essentials

Mid-September is one of the loveliest times to be in Pécs: warm, largely sunny days of around 22–24°C and cooler evenings near 12°C, with roughly seven hours of sunshine and only the occasional short shower. Pack light layers, a jacket or jumper for the evenings, comfortable walking shoes and a small umbrella, if needed.

GETTING AROUND & MONEY

Currency Hungarian Forint (HUF); cards widely accepted, carry some cash.

On foot The old town is compact and very walkable.

Buses Local buses serve the wider city and campuses.

Time zone Central European Time (CET / CEST).

Tipping Around 10% is customary in restaurants but is often included in the service charge.

PRACTICAL ESSENTIALS

Language Hungarian; English widely understood as this is a university city.

Electricity 230 V; European two-pin plugs (types C/F).

Emergency 112 — the general European emergency number.

Health EHIC or travel insurance recommended.

Tap water Safe to drink throughout the city.

For programme details, see the 2026 Summer School Programme and Book of Abstracts.





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*We look forward to
welcoming you to Pécs.*



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