

# The ultimate checklist for emigration to Hungary

We have compiled the essential points for preparing to emigrate to Hungary so that you don't forget anything and have also included links to further information where possible.

## 1 year before emigration – First collection of information

Public offices as sources for information

- Foreign ministry in Switzerland
  - [Emigration advice](#)
  - Country information
- Foreign ministry in Germany
  - [Information for emigrants about Hungary](#)
  - [Advice for emigrants to Hungary](#)
  - [Emigration into pension](#)
- Federal administration of Germany
  - [Information for emigrants to Hungary](#)
- German embassy Budapest
  - [Advice for emigrants to Hungary](#)

Collect own information about Hungary

- Travel to Hungary and get to know the differences in the country - our tip: the north side of Lake Balaton
- Get to know the [Hungarian real estate market](#) and the development of real estate prices
- Find out about the cost of living in Hungary and make a budget
- Start with a language course or first vocabulary

Clarifying personal circumstances

- If not EU or Swiss citizen check with the Hungarian embassy of your home country about necessary visa
- Check whether full emigration to Hungary or partial emigration with a second residence is more suitable in terms of social security, pension fund, health insurance or which point in time is more suitable
- Clarify any conditions and restrictions regarding emigration to Hungary with your social insurance provider
- Make sure that if you emigrate to Hungary completely, you can keep possible accounts with banks in your home country if necessary - not all banks keep accounts for holders abroad
- If you want to work in Hungary, start looking for suitable companies and translate your application documents into Hungarian
- If you wish to be self-employed in Hungary, check the tax requirements and implications

## 6 month - 1 year before emigration – specification

### Search for and preparation of residence

- Decide on a preferred region in Hungary - many emigrants are very satisfied in the Balaton region, [here](#) are some reasons
- Search for [houses in Hungary](#) or [apartments in Hungary](#) with locally knowledgeable English-speaking real estate agents
- Check the [additional costs](#) for your potential property in Hungary
- Clarify with your real estate agent any time frames for property transfers, there are posting and approval deadlines for specific properties and sellers have time windows
- Open a bank account (a good estate agent will help)
- When buying a property in Hungary, don't forget insurance (a good estate agent will also help here)
- If you have school-age children, check the local schools and school enrollment options

### Document check

- How long are your ID, identity card and passport valid for?
- Check important documents such as birth and marriage certificates and any need for a certified translation
- Check the recognition of diplomas and certificates in Hungary if you want to work or study
- Do you want to give up your home country driver's license? After 6 months in Hungary you are obliged to exchange your license
- Cancel subscriptions (cell phone, newspapers, cable TV) in good time
- Terminate contracts with suppliers in your home country in good time (electricity, water, gas)
- Cancel insurance policies and memberships if they are not necessary in Hungary
- If possible, obtain a no-claims certificate from your car insurance company

### Health insurance

- Clarify with your health insurance company about moving to Hungary and the options for foreign tariffs or, in the case of private insurance, cover in Hungary or the option of joining the Hungarian statutory health insurance scheme
- If possible and desired, prepare the transfer of health insurance to the date of relocation

### Preparation of move

- Check whether a move to Hungary or a household liquidation is better (at least 6 months old removal goods including vehicles as removal goods are tax-free)
- Get quotes from removal companies and organize helpers
- For non-EU citizens:
  - Make an inventory list (3 copies)
  - Check the current customs formalities with customs and forwarding agent
  - Take care of the T1 form from customs (not all freight forwarders are experienced with removals from outside the EU to Hungary)
- For animal owners: Check the necessary measures for the transfer of animals (vaccinations, European vaccination certificate, certificates for livestock)
- For the unemployed: Notification to the employment office

#### Health check

- Do a check-up in your home country
- Discuss the options for medication with your family doctor and stock up (not all medication is available in Hungary)
- Have your medical records handed over and translated if necessary

#### The time has come: Departure and arrival

##### Shortly before departure

- Deregister with the municipality and set up mail forwarding
- Notify the road traffic office of your departure
- Important: Organize the farewell aperitif and provide new contact details

##### Shortly after arrival

- Registration with Hungarian authorities
  - [Register with the Hungarian immigration police and apply for a residence card \(online\)](#)
  - Have your driver's license transferred
  - If necessary, tax office and school authorities
- Registration with the Swiss representation within 90 days of deregistration in Switzerland is mandatory (consular activities are handled in Vienna)
  - [Online registration as a Swiss abroad via the FDFA online service](#)
  - [Regional Consular Center Vienna](#)
- German Embassy Budapest
  - [Registration in the crisis preparedness list \(ELEFAND\) if desired - not mandatory](#)
- Register your car (your favorite broker has the contacts for the re-registration service)
- Make a note of the [Hungarian emergency numbers](#)
- Introduce yourself to the neighbors