



ADVENT FAIR + PROGRAMMES

By Visitdebrecen

Advent in Debrecen will begin on 26th November at 9:00 a.m. and will be open for 4 weeks until 23rd December at 8:00 p.m. During this period, visitors can enjoy a fair, gastronomy, open-air concerts, family and children's activities, and an ice rink.

The downtown fairgrounds will feature both modern and traditional products: carpets, weavings, handmade ceramics, wooden toys, gingerbread, herbs, teas, scones, and sumptuous Christmas decorations. More than 90 Christmas-themed stalls will offer a wide range of products, including a selection of special culinary delicacies.

On each Advent weekend, you will be able to enjoy outdoor activities and listen to local and nationally known speakers, and families with children can enjoy numerous children's programs available – including a playhouse and craft activities in the Advent 'Kuckó' House dreamed up together with DEMKI – on the downtown pedestrian streets. On the weekends of the magical fair, the audience will also be treated to a rolling pianist, dressed-up cartoon characters, fairytale creatures, stilt walkers, and carnival runners. The concerts will also showcase Bethlehem, Hungarian and Celtic traditions, as well as nostalgic Christmas elements.

Santa comes early in Hungary! The period between the 3rd-5th December is all about Santa Claus: Santa welcomes the little ones in the Advent House.

Find more information about what is happening during Advent in Debrecen via the link below.

<https://debreceniadvent.hu/https://debreceniadvent.hu/>

HILTON HOTEL TO OPEN IN DEBRECEN

The foundation stone for the 101-room, 7-storey hotel was laid just over a year ago and is due for completion by the end of 2023.

The hotel development team recently celebrated reaching the half way point in the construction, and also announced that the new hotel on Darabos Street will be called **Hilton Garden Inn Debrecen City Center**.

"Debrecen has been on our radar for a long time, we understood the potential of the significant number of business and leisure travellers," said Malgorzata Morek, Eastern European Development Director of Hilton at the opening ceremony.

Tourism Figures 2022

In the first 10 months of 2022, 173,000 guests arrived in Debrecen, spending 463,000 nights. Domestic tourists accounted for 57 per cent of the turnover, but foreign interest is also growing, with 198,000 foreign overnight stays in September and October this year, 62 per cent higher than a year earlier. Israel, for example, recorded five times as many overnight stays as in the same period last year, but the German sending market was also significant, with a 25 per cent increase, stated Péter Horváth, CEO of the Hungarian Tourism Agency.



800m Ice Rink Opens on 26th November

By Visitdebrecen

The Kossuth Square Ice Rink has become a regular fixture during advent and it will be even bigger this year.

The city's energy-saving program includes ice rinks, therefore there will be no skating at the Great Forest Stadium this year, just in front of the Reformed Great Church with the construction of the rink now complete.

Last season, nearly 10,000 school children and 16,500 individual visitors came to the ice rink, with most of the city's schools bringing their pupils. This year, like last, there are a number of organized programs at the rink.

The Kossuth Square ice rink will open on 26th November 2022, open every day, and will feature an ice disco with different themes: '60s and '70s style, sci-fi disco, and more. Skate rental will also be available on-site. This rink will be open until the end of the holiday season. The traditional Christmas fair will also take place from 26th November 2022. There will be decorated tree houses on Kossuth Square, Dósa Nádor Square, Csapó Street, and Rózsa Street.

As in the past, the experience will be as wide-ranging as ever, with 23 catering outlets and almost 94 traders. Decorated stalls will offer handicraft products, elaborate Christmas decorations, seasonal gifts, delicious delicacies, and special culinary delights.

The traditional Advent market is open from 12 p.m. to 8 p.m. on weekdays and from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. on weekends until 23rd December.

NEWS

ZOO DEBRECEN

The Great Forest Cultural Park has been expanded with an event venue. The panoramic terrace and event venue is added to Debrecen zoo. The venue, named Samburu, is located next to the enclosure for the giraffes.

The partially covered panoramic terrace can be the venue for exclusive private events and corporate programs, to which the institution also offers a guided zoo walk. Learn more via the [Zoo website](http://www.zoodebrecen.hu/). <http://www.zoodebrecen.hu/>





Enjoy the Aquaticum Spa During Advent

By Visitdebrecen

Located in an area of scenic beauty in Big Forest, the spa complex offers an entire unit of medical facilities and a wide range of specialist consultations to guests who seek regeneration, healing, or relaxation.

Your comfort and enjoyment will be guaranteed by the attractions of the Thermal Bath, the Indoor Mediterranean Pleasure Bath, the "water-chute park," wellness center (directly accessible from the hotel unit one of the five thermal pools shown in the picture above) as well as the "sauna world." All this is in an area of natural beauty set aside for public recreational use.

The temperature of the thermal water feeding the Debrecen bath is 65°C. Its mineral composition includes alkali chloride, hydrogen carbonate, iodide, bromide, sodium chloride with a significant content of calcium, magnesium, meta-boric acid, and meta-silicic acid.

The domed bath hall features baths filled with water at four different temperatures up to 40°C, as well as swimming and plunge pools. Both the indoor and outdoor pools are equipped with underwater jets and high-pressure showers which supplement medical treatments with thermal massages and contribute to the best-quality spa experience.

The thermal bath's health center utilizes the therapeutic properties of thermal water in nearly 40 treatment options and the clinic provides state-of-the-art medical services in the following specialties: rheumatology, cardiology, and dentistry.

SAUNA WORLD

An integral part of the thermal bath, the sauna world occupies an area of several hundred square meters reserved for Finnish saunas, steam rooms, an "ice fountain," tepidarium, infra sauna, cold immersion pond, Kneipp pools, and massage showers. Two isolated relaxation rooms and an outdoor sanctuary with loungers, ambient lighting, and relaxing music will help you enjoy some time-out before and after your sweat sessions.

MEDITERRANEAN AQUA PARK

It is summer all year round in this fantastic spa complex thanks to the lush tropical vegetation and special features. The latter include artificial waves, pools for kids, 12 water chutes, climbing wall, whirlpools, underwater jets, massage showers, grottos, and a "water chopper." The facility, directly accessible from the thermal bath, also features a Thai massage center, Mediterranean sauna complex, and a restaurant.

www.aquaticum.hu



Michelin Guide Includes Ikon Restaurant

This is the first time the Michelin Guide has published a list of restaurants from all over Hungary, and the first time a Hungarian restaurant in the countryside has been awarded a **Michelin star**.

To be included in the Michelin Guide Selection national selection is also a great honor.

The IKON Restaurant in Debreceen, which opened in 2012, has been one of the outstanding restaurants of rural gastronomy from its very first moment. It is such an important event that Michelin experts have recognized it.

Ádám Thür, the chef of IKON Restaurant, told the online publication vince.hu previously that it was a great success that they were invited to the presentation of the Hungarian Michelin Guide.

In the first edition of the Michelin Guide Hungary, nationwide, a total of sixty-two restaurants are recommended to gourmets.

<https://www.ikonrestaurant.hu/>

Aquaticum Strand Wins Award

This month, the Aquaticum Great Forest Spa is set to win another prestigious international award, as the building has been shortlisted as one of the best in the leisure category of the international WAN Awards. The awards, founded by World Architecture News (WAN) and World Interiors News (WIN), are being held for the 14th time this year and are judged by an international jury of renowned professionals. Each year, the award recognises innovative and imaginative building designers.

Campus Festival 2023 Preview

Debreceen's Campus Festival 2023, will once again be a festival of musical diversity, with world-class music artists and performers and an exciting programme of events. One of Hungary's biggest summer cultural events, the event attracted 116,000 visitors over four days in 2022. The Debreceen festival will be 15 years old next year, so the preparations are even bigger and more exciting than usual, and now the first names have been announced.

For the first time, two world stars have been announced for next summer's Campus: ZAZ and Robin Schulz, and today more than 30 national artists have been announced. See the [Campus Festival website](#) for details.