Basic information about Hungary

**Area:** 93,030 sq km

**Population:** 9.7 million

**Capital:** Budapest

**Official language:** Hungarian

**Currency:** Hungarian forint, HUF

**Climate:** Dry continental with four seasons

**Neighbouring countries:** Austria, Croatia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Serbia, Romania, Ukraine

**EU Member State since:** 1 May 2004

**Member of the Schengen zone since:** 2007
Founded on the 1st of February 2021, the Hungarian University of Agriculture and Life Sciences (MATE) has become one of the largest agricultural-focused, multi-disciplinary tertiary institutions in Europe.

Our University boasts a unique architecture and infrastructure of our campuses as well as beautiful lawns which create a pleasant ambience and provide a conducive environment for our students.

Our esteemed university which has campuses in Budapest, Gödöllő, Gyöngyös, Kaposvár and Keszhely offers constantly revised degree and training programmes and invests significantly into making our institution competitive on the global front.

As a dynamic institution, we consider lessons learned from the most successful European universities and combine our methods with state-of-the-art solutions, to design the best programmes for our students.

As a recently established university, our long-term objective is to be amongst the thirty best agricultural tertiary universities in the world.

Hungary, which is an amazing place to study, is a member of the EU and also part of the Schengen Area. Tuition fees and living costs are very affordable, compared to other parts of Europe.

Courses for international students are delivered in English and Hungarian. Degrees are valued and accepted everywhere in the European Union and the international community.

Studying in Hungary has been an enormous and valuable experience for me. With knowledgeable faculty, I garnered in-depth understanding about how the real-world economy works and acquired hands-on experience with a multinational company.

The Hungarian University of Agriculture and Life Sciences is one of the best in the field of agriculture, business/economics in Hungary.

They offer a wide range of extracurricular activities, opportunities for professional development, study competitions, participation in research groups, and volunteer as teaching assistants. Additionally, the university has a broad variety of exchange programme abroad.

Prof. Dr. Csaba Gyuricza
Acting Rector

Dr. Lawrence Tetteh
FRSA (Economic and International Relations consultant)
World Renowned Speaker and Tele-Evangelist, trained in Hungary
Why study at MATE?

MATE has established a strong partnership with nearly 300 universities to facilitate the mobility of students and staff for study, research and training. It is consistently ranked among the top Hungarian universities for both volume of mobility flows and quality. MATE was the first university to receive the E-Quality award from the National Ministry of Education in 2004 for the success in the Erasmus mobility program and won the International Cooperation Culture award in 2013. In 2019 MATE was acknowledged in two categories, receiving the highest scores in student services within the Stipendium Hungaricum programme and our university was the most successful higher education institution in Hungary within the International Credit Mobility scheme considering the total grant amount (over 2 million EUR) between 2015-2020.

MATE welcomes a wide range of exchange students from our partner institutions within the Erasmus+, Erasmus+ Credit Mobility and CEEPUS Programmes and under the scope of bilateral agreements from countries outside the European Union. Our aim is to offer a study or training opportunity to all interested students with at least 4.0 grade average.

Numerous disciplines

The experts of tomorrow should seek a tri-fold balance – vibrant environment, beautiful landscape and healthy food – in order to achieve sustainability and quality in the fields of agricultural production. Our degree programmes are offered in a wide variety of subjects ranging from:

- Agricultural, environmental and food sciences
- Horticulture
- Viticulture
- Oenology
- Water and renewable energy management
- Landscape architecture and mechanical engineering
- Rural development
- Economics and social sciences

Programmes are available at all levels from Bachelor to the Doctor of Philosophy (PhD).

MATE's long tradition of research and innovation lays the foundation for the University's educational and institutional excellence.

Our teaching staff

In our institution there are over 450 professional lecturers who hold academic degrees in PhD and other higher qualifications to deliver the best programmes.

Further information on exchange possibilities:

uni-mate.hu/en
international@uni-mate.hu
International relations

At MATE, we understand the importance of internationalization and have therefore introduced a variety of extracurricular activities that are to promote cultural assimilation. Thanks to our visionary leadership, we also boast of a strong partnership base in almost all the continents with over 250 active bilateral agreements with partner universities in nearly 60 countries. This makes it possible for students and staff to acquire and share knowledge through exchange programmes in order to better succeed in the globalized world. We see this as the cornerstone for a more secure future and are proud to be a vital part of it.

Mission

As one of the largest agricultural-oriented, multidisciplinary tertiary institutions in Central Europe, our mission is to provide world-class education that offers our alumni a promising career and makes them competitive on the job market.

Our areas of specialization include:

- Teaching and research of food source production
- Food quality and safety
- Water and soil as strategic resource
- Environmental protection and sustainability
- Energy security
- Bioeconomy
Buda Campus

Idyllic-looking in the heart of the Capital

Located in Buda Arboretum, Buda Campus not only has beautiful architecture but is also easily accessible from Budapest city centre by tram, bus or metro. Courses offered in this campus include:
» Food science
» Horticulture
» Urban and landscape architecture education

The growing global population, new challenges will arise and necessitate the discovery of new technologies by food and bioengineers.

In this light, we recommend Buda Campus, which is recognized as the strongest tertiary education actor in the Hungarian food sector, because of its close relations with local and international market-leading companies.

A key player on the food science market

As the world’s population is expected to grow from 7 billion to 9 billion by 2050, food demand is predicted to rise by 70 percent, causing a significant increase in demand for processed foods. Consequently, there is an anticipation in a bid to meet the dietary demand of
The most profitable agricultural sector

Nature’s pharmacy is mainly composed of compounds found in plants. However, gardening also pleases the eye and heals the soul, there is also a rapidly growing demand for functional foods, health preserving vegetables and fruits, grapes and medicinal herbs recently discovered or used by our ancestors.

Arboretum, teaching facilities, botanical garden

The 7.5-hectare Buda Arboretum with several thematic collections serving as a kind of living textbook provide a unique basis for learning and practical teaching. Experimental and Research Farm in Soroksár gives home to all branches of horticulture, i.e. ecological farming, tree nursery, plant breeding and field cultivation.

Research in viticulture

Climate change has proven to be an area of concern in viticulture. Research has shown that common grape varieties often have poor tolerance to extreme weather conditions, which give rise to new pathogens and pests that damage their fruits. At Buda Campus, one of our core areas is to undertake scientific research to develop solutions to viticultural problems.

A unique programme

Our human environment is largely impacted by landscapes, urban open spaces, green spaces and the geographical placements of settlements. To improve the aesthetics of these settlements, expert knowledge is required in the following areas:

- Landscape and urban design
- Planning and development
- The renewal of abandoned or demolished areas
- Garden design

The good news is that students can choose from any of these unique programmes, offered only at Buda Campus and acquire relevant expertise that will set them up for their professional future.
Georgikon Campus

Campus with a long history

Georgikon Campus has an outstanding agricultural, cultural and historical value for Keszthely which is located at Lake Balaton. The predecessor of Georgikon Campus was the first agricultural tertiary institution in Hungary and Europe, and is still a prestigious symbol of Hungary’s agricultural tradition. Amazing facilities on this campus include a farm for practicals. The campus has been undertaking education and research since its foundation. If you choose to study at Georgikon Campus, you will enjoy a wonderful view of Lake Balaton; the main campus attraction is also known as the Hungarian Sea.

Georgikon Days, Keszthely Plant Protection Forum

Georgikon Days Scientific Conference, which has been taking place since 1958, has recently been focusing on sustainability, competitiveness, food security and climate change. Students will have the opportunity to meet professionals from various sectors such as agricultural production, services, trade, administration and research for impactful and life changing interactions.

Research and development

Georgikon Campus focuses on the development of genetic bases using traditional and biotechnological methods, which are also integrated and environmentally friendly crop production and plant protection technologies, geared at sustainable development. The study of the connections between Lake Balaton and agricultural production, and other related research in rural development, tourism, agricultural sociology and social sciences is an added advantage.
Yellowing

Yellowing is the term given to the oldest student tradition in Hungary that first took place in 1884, on Georgikon Campus. Graduates go to serenade their favourite professors and instructors. Dressed in fancy dresses, they hold a fun jug ceremony and then say goodbye to their beloved city and university with a torchlight procession.

The grape variety Cserszegi Fűszeres (Spicy Grape of Cserszeg), which has now been recognized as part of Hungary’s gastronomy was first cultivated by Károly Bakonyi who worked on Georgikon Campus for over 40 years.

Lakeshore water sports facilities

As a lakeshore campus, water sports play a significant role in the university sports life of Keszthely. In addition to water sports training, students can also use the gym for workouts. The youthful ambience at lakeshore campus stems from these sporting activities and annual participation in Balaton Regatta and several other championships.
Kaposvár Campus

Laboratory networks

The Agricultural and Food Science Laboratory Network developed according to the “farm to fork” approach, encompasses every aspect of raw material production for food in plants and animals.

The treasure of Somogy

After the turn of the Millennium, the agricultural and pedagogical knowledge centres in Kaposvár were extended with the school of economics, special needs, social sciences, arts and humanities. The campus facilities and infrastructure were also adjusted and improved to accommodate the increased number of students. Having existed for over 40-years, Pannon Equestrian Academy and Bőszénfa Game Management and Landscape Center, is the home of the largest red deer farm in Hungary, an integral part of Kaposvár Campus.

Test-tube calves born on Campus

The staff of the Embryo Transplant Center on Kaposvár Campus were the first team in Hungary to succeed in having test-tube calves born from live cattle using the oocyte retrieval and fertilization methods under strict laboratory conditions. Thanks to this approach, three Murray Grey calves out of six implanted embryos were born in August 2020.
Advanced learning in Economics

The aim of introducing Economics as a program in Kaposvár is to train decisive, responsible, open-minded professionals who are able to perform excellently in both international and domestic economic environments. To this end, it is essential to deliver this programme in a very advanced approach.

Art and art mediation programmes

Art and art mediation programmes on Kaposvár Campus in Hungary also include designer making, media and performing arts. This workshop represents and shows the ideas and creative approaches for community developments. These are very necessary for intellectuals and creative people who contribute to changing the socio-economic environment.

Early childhood education – Complete programme

Teacher training on Kaposvár Campus contributes significantly to teacher training education in the region. In addition to its regional role, we have an outstanding and unique training portfolio in Hungary. We also offer a complete range of programmes in the early childhood education field.
Károly Róbert Campus

Campus at Mátra Mountains

The modern and accessible Károly Róbert Campus in Gyöngyös attracts students due to its traditions in agricultural education as well as the modern knowledge offered in the fields of economics and informatics. Currently, we boast of having a tenth of freshmen who are international students.

Climate protection

Tass-puszta Study Farm of Gyöngyös Campus, has been operating a biomass heating plant for almost a decade. Experiments on the burning of energy crops or agricultural waste are being conducted here. Additionally, this facility provides the warmth needed to grow tomatoes and peppers in the 2,000-square-meter hydroponic greenhouse.

Research in Kompolt

Research into Hungarian plant breeding at Kompolt operates under very unique ecological conditions. According to the experience of several generations of experts at Rudolf Fleischmann Research Institute, Kompolt has a favourable location for plant breeding because of the proximity of the North Hungarian Mountains, its rain shadow, and its harsh winter weather.
Arboretum with literary atmosphere in Erdőtelek

The estate became the property of Dr. József Kovács in 1845, who established a botanical garden there. There are more than 1,200 species of trees, shrubs and perennials revealing the magical world of different flora in the 25.5-hectare area. Visitors can admire the old and new collections of the garden on 6 hectares year round.

A great variety of degree programmes

The most popular courses in the field of agricultural sciences for bachelor and master programmes are in rural agricultural engineering, higher-level vocational trainings in medicinal plants, aromatics and spices, as well as in viticulture and winemaking. This has been made possible as a result of the campus being located in Mátra Wine Region. Other popular courses include economics-related courses such as finance and accounting, trade and marketing, business administration and management courses.

Exercise for health

Károly Róbert Campus has always been of great convenience when it comes to physical activities; thanks to the proximity of Mátra Mountains which provide an excellent location for these purposes. There are several day trips and other programmes organized, such as a garbage collection tour to clean a frequently used route, a trip to St. Anne’s Chapel on Sár Hill, sports days and bicycle tours on International Sports Day.
Szent István Campus

University campus with a good location

Szent István Campus is located in Gödöllő City, with a lot of available services ranging from a post office, a pharmacy, grocery stores and clinics. It is one of the largest university campuses in the country where agricultural, technical and economic university programmes are offered. The campus can be reached by two railway lines and also by car from Budapest, which takes approximately 25 minutes.

Land is the largest workbench

Hungarian agriculture has been the fastest expanding sector within the European Union. Agricultural production involves the management of natural resources, the protection of the environment, wildlife, drinking water, soil, air and the landscape. The results of agricultural research on this campus have contributed to improving the quality of life, the competitiveness and profitability of production, as well as environmental management.

Smart agriculture

The use of state-of-the-art smart tools can help farmers in solving problems of modern agriculture; however, an innovative farming mindset is also necessary for the widespread use of artificial intelligence systems. The introduction of precision farming tools promises long-term returns and therefore requires a future-oriented approach. At Szent István Campus, we educate in these fields to raise experts who will contribute to knowledge in agricultural methods and practices.

Rural development

Increasing the demand on settlements and the quality of life in rural areas is a critical issue in our world today. The rural development programmes offered on campus focus on how the development of these settlements can be enhanced using novel project approaches.
Cooperative training

As an institution, we do not only believe in theory but also in practical application of theories. This is why we have designed our programmes in such a way that in addition to acquiring theoretical knowledge, students receive practice-oriented training on the field. We have made this possible through our strategic partnerships and collaborations with relevant companies, thereby giving our students the opportunity to spend their final semesters as engineering interns in these companies. This experience prepares our students for a good and lucrative profession and makes them competitive on the job market.

State-of-the-art technology in laboratories

Our students are also free to participate in research work in our very well equipped departments in the following areas:

- Traditional vehicle engineering
- Energetics
- Materials science
- Mechanical engineering technology
- Computer science engineering and agricultural informatics
- Drone technology and robotics
**Degree programmes in English**

**Bachelor programmes** (3, 5 years)

- Budapest
  - Food Engineering
  - Horticultural Engineering

- Gödöllő
  - Agricultural Engineering
  - Business Administration and Management
  - Environmental Engineering
  - Mechanical Engineering
  - Wildlife Conservation and Management

- Gyöngyös
  - Agricultural Engineering
  - Business Administration and Management
  - Tourism and Catering

- Kaposvár
  - Commerce and Marketing
  - International Studies

**Master programmes** (2 years)

- Budapest
  - Agricultural Biotechnology (plant)
  - Food Science and Technology Engineering
  - Food Safety and Quality Engineering
  - Horticultural Engineering
  - Landscape Architecture and Garden Design

- Gödöllő
  - Agricultural Biotechnology (animal and plant)
  - Agricultural Water Management Engineering
  - Crop Production Engineering
  - Environmental Engineering
  - Management and Leadership
  - Mechanical Engineering
  - Rural Development and Agribusiness
  - Supply Chain Management
  - Wildlife Management Engineering

- Gyöngyös
  - Business Development
  - Management and Leadership
  - Tourism Management

- Kaposvár
  - Animal Nutrition and Feed Safety
  - Regional and Environmental Economics
  - Rural Development Engineering

- Keszthely
  - Plant Protection
PhD studies (~4 years)

The doctoral degree awarded by Hungarian University of Agriculture and Life Sciences (MATE) is an internationally recognized and nationally accredited PhD degree. Our professional staff have a good reputation all over the world. The PhD students from MATE easily find jobs in government offices, research institutions, multilateral companies and academic institutions in any part of the world.

Our PhD programmes take 4 years in total. The first 2 years are completed by passing an advanced level exam at the end of the 4th semester, while the last 2 years are for scholarly research, publications and student dissertation. Our PhD programmes take place on four campuses in nine scientific areas.

Ratio of international students in PhD programmes amounts to 36% from more than 60 countries. Governmental scholarships are available for international students (Stipendium Hungaricum, Scholarship Programme for Christian Young People and Bilateral State Scholarships).

Exchange programmes

MATE welcomes a wide range of exchange students from our partner institutions within Erasmus+, Erasmus+ Credit Mobility, EEA, CEEPUS Programmes and under the scope of bilateral agreements from countries outside the European Union. MATE offers student mobility opportunities abroad for students who meet the requirements of good results and communication skills.

Doctoral schools

» Budapest «
- Doctoral School of Food Sciences
- Doctoral School of Horticultural Sciences
- Doctoral School of Landscape Architecture and Landscape Ecology

» Gödöllő «
- Doctoral School of Animal Sciences
- Doctoral School of Biological Sciences
- Doctoral School of Environmental Sciences
- Doctoral School of Crop Sciences
- Doctoral School of Economic and Regional Sciences
- Doctoral School of Mechanical Engineering

» Kaposvár «
- Doctoral School of Animal Husbandry
- Doctoral School in Management and Organizational Sciences

» Keszthely «
- Festetics Doctoral School
  - Environmental sciences
  - Plant breeding and botany
  - Animal husbandry
How to apply?

We are pleased that you are interested in studying at MATE. Applicants to MATE must complete the following steps:

- complete the application form
- attach a letter of motivation
- attach reference forms, recommendation letters from two references
- enclose applicable academic documents:
  - BSc applicants must enclose an official copy of their secondary school final examination
  - MSc applicants must enclose an official copy of their BSc degree certificate and transcripts
- enclose a proof of a B2 level English competence
- attach a brief Curriculum Vitae.

Send your application package to:

WMO Hungarian Educational Institute for Africa
hunedu4africa@gmail.com

Tuition fees and other costs

Registration fee:

- 100 EUR/student (BSc, MSc programmes)
- 100 EUR/student (PhD programmes)

Tuition fees:

- 2000-3000 EUR/semester (BSc, MSc programmes)
- 6000 EUR/semester (PhD programmes)

Student card fee:

- 10 EUR/student

Accommodation:

- approximately 150 EUR/month (double occupancy)
- approximately 190 EUR/month (single occupancy)
Facilities

Dormitories

All of the campuses of MATE have dormitories with varied and limited capacities.

Application for accommodation can be done after gaining admission. Available facilities in our dormitories include: (as well as in most houses in Hungary) potable water (drinkable without boiling), electricity, a central heating system, and access to the Internet.

Renting

The cost of a shared or private apartment ranges from 140 to 270 euros per month, respectively.

Accomodation

In Gödöllő, finding accommodation nearby is quite rare, so students usually rent accommodation in Budapest. However, this should not be a problem if your choice of courses are only offered in Gödöllő. In about 30 mins, one can arrive at Szent István Campus in Gödöllő by train from the Eastern Railway Station (Budapest, Keleti Pályaudvar).
Mutua Kennedy Ndue

Economics and Regional Sciences Doctoral School

Topic: challenge of climate change adaptation in Agriculture

MATE is a well-known Institution globally for excellent performance in agricultural research. The University produces market-oriented, problem solvers and critical thinkers who can are competitive globally. The university produces students who can solve global issues especially the challenges we are facing in Africa. Post my PhD, I am strongly confident that I have the tacit and knowledge courtesy of MATE to lead researchers from Kenya and the entire African continent in coming up with sustainable development strategies.

Dr. Alieu Gibba

Senior Lecturer & Head of Department
Department of Economics & Finance
School of Business & Public Administration
University of The Gambia

I was opportune to travel to this beautiful and culturally rich nation in September 2017 to pursue my terminal degree studies in Business Economics & Administration at Hungarian University of Agriculture and Life Sciences, Gödöllő. The staff is helpful towards knowledge gain, the local and international students were collaborative. The institution has all what is needed to successfully complete intended degree programs. My experience in Hungary was beyond narration. I have found Hungary to be one of the finest and safest European countries, and its people as one of the most welcoming and cheerful.

Ishatta Bojang

Bachelor of Science (Summa cum Laude), Human Resource Management Bachelor of Science (Honors), Management Assistant Registrar University of The Gambia
As a final year PhD student, I am glad to say that the research and training I have been exposed are very high standards coupled with well-equipped laboratories. I had opportunities to visit farms and food industries in Hungary. Hungarians have a beautiful culture, folk dance and classical music entertainment. I enjoy so many Hungarian traditional foods and snacks such as goulash, halászlé, lándos, sajtos pogácsa.

YAKUBU, Barnabas Nuhu
PhD Economics and Regional Sciences
Nigeria

Over the course of the two years, I developed not only academically, but also got to learn about new traditions and cultures and this has changed my personal perception about the world. Indeed, it was an experience I will cherish throughout my life. It is clear to note that conducive learning environment entails quality accommodation which Szent István Campus in Gödöllő offers the best in Hungary amongst many schools I visited. Coming to Hungary has offered me connectivity to many parts of Europe and opened my horizon to a totally different culture ranging from the cold winters to the Hungarian language and cuisine (goulash) and also the kind and loving Hungarians.
Number of Students from African Countries

- Algeria: 1
- Angola: 21
- Chad: 2
- South Africa: 34
- South Sudan: 1
- Egypt: 20
- Eritrea: 3
- Ethiopia: 21
- The Gambia: 3
- Ghana: 32
- Kenya: 26
- Libya: 5
- Madagascar: 1
- Mali: 1
- Morocco: 1
- Namibia: 1
- Niger: 31
- Sudan: 7
- Tanzania: 17
- Tunisia: 42
- Uganda: 3
- Zambia: 2