

2026 First-Quarter Edition

# *Debrecen*4U

## EXPAT COMMUNITY MAGAZINE





# GREETINGS FROM OUR MAYOR

Dear International Friends,

Welcome to Debrecen, a city of historical significance in Hungary and the Carpathian Basin.

For centuries, Debrecen has been a beacon of intellectual, cultural, and economic development.

Our university's educational and research opportunities draw people from all over the world.

The local professional knowledge makes Debrecen a hub for those seeking modern education and investing in cutting-edge technologies.

However, life is not just about working and learning. It is also about comfort and convenience.

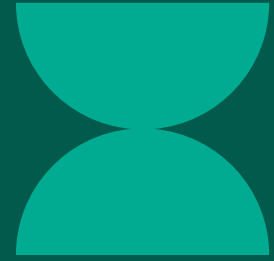
Our city offers a wide range of amenities, including housing, transportation, shopping, entertainment, and much more. These services cater to the needs of both residents and international visitors, ensuring a seamless integration into our community.

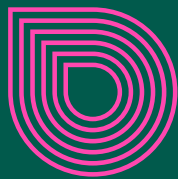
I hope you quickly feel at home in Debrecen and that when the time comes to leave, you will leave with fond memories of our city.

Warm regards,

*László Papp*

MAYOR OF  
DEBRECEN





Top Story

# BMW to Establish New Global Financial and Logistics Service Centre in Debrecen



German premium car maker BMW is expanding its presence in Hungary with a new business service centre.

The EUR 4.3 million investment, supported by the HIPA Hungarian Investment Promotion Agency, creates a new unit in Debrecen, at the location of BMW's Hungarian plant, producing the iX3 model of the Neue Klasse series since October 2025.

The **Debrecen BMW Service Hub** will support the Bavarian car maker's production network in the fields of logistics and finance.

**The project is expected to create 50 new high-value-added jobs.**

Debrecen secured the investment in strong international competition, outperforming locations including BMW's Munich headquarters, Salzburg, as well as sites in Romania and India.



The **new service centre will provide logistics support for BMW's European plants**, focusing on quality assurance, container management and material inspection. In the financial domain, experts in Debrecen will contribute to the development of accounting and customs processes.

The project further strengthens Debrecen's position within BMW's global network of more than 30 production sites, while also deepening cooperation between BMW and the University of Debrecen.

As part of this partnership, new training programs with a focus on customs will be launched.

## BMW Group Plant Debrecen – A Brief Overview

The project reached its **first major milestone in July 2018**, when the BMW Group announced Debrecen as the location of its first manufacturing unit in Central Eastern Europe. The decision was the result of 14 months of negotiations.

**In December 2020, BMW Group announced that the Debrecen plant would be dedicated exclusively to fully electric cars.** This decision significantly elevated the role of the Eastern Hungarian city in the company's global electromobility strategy, making Debrecen the very first location to house the platform developed for producing the Neue Klasse model family, representing a new generation of electric drivetrains.

**In 2022, BMW Group announced that the facility would not only comprise a full-scope production operation but also include a unique battery assembly plant integrated into the site.** BMW Group partnered with EVE Power, one of the major players of the battery industry, which in 2023 confirmed plans to build a factory directly adjacent to BMW Group's complex with an EUR 1 billion investment, creating over 1,000 jobs.

**The foundation stone of the car factory was laid in the summer of 2022. The first Neue Klasse test vehicles rolled off the assembly line in November 2024**, while the plant's debut model, the BMW iX3, was presented to the public in September 2025. The factory will be capable of producing up to 150,000 vehicles annually.



Valued at €2 billion and set to create 2,000 jobs, the project faced intense regional and domestic competition. Debrecen ultimately secured the investment thanks to its strong infrastructure, airport connectivity, industrial heritage, and highly skilled workforce.



## 1 Phase II Coming Soon for Debrecen's SME Park

Phase II of Debrecen's SME Park is now underway, bringing an additional 11 hectares of modern business premises to the site. The city's first 14-hectare SME Park in the Southern Economic Zone currently accommodates 16 enterprises, and the municipal support programme for local SMEs will continue this year. Mayor László Papp emphasised the sector's strategic role, noting that SMEs employ 66% of Debrecen's workforce. [More >>>](#)

## 2 The First Shipments Have Left the BMW Group Plant Debrecen

The first shipments have left the BMW Group Plant Debrecen, operated by PSP Rail. From March, the company will manage large-volume rail transport for BMW, expanding to major European seaports from 2027. Using 110 new vehicle-optimised wagons and Siemens Vectron electric locomotives, the service ensures efficient, low-emission transport. The shift to rail will remove several thousand lorries from the roads each year, significantly cutting CO<sub>2</sub> emissions and easing pressure on the environment and road infrastructure. [More >>>](#)



## 3 Employee Interest Protection Office Opened in Debrecen

The Municipality of Debrecen has opened an Employee Interest Protection Office in the New City Hall to support workers with workplace, labour law, and health-related issues. The office provides an official channel for submitting complaints, which are forwarded to the relevant authorities for investigation. It reflects the city's commitment to ensuring legal compliance and protecting employee rights. The office is available during business hours and can also be contacted electronically. [More >>>](#)



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### EVE Power Relies on Local Workforce and Suppliers

EVE Power plans to rely heavily on the local workforce, with employee numbers expected to reach around 700 by 2028. The company is building a high-tech battery factory in Debrecen's North-Western Economic Zone and aims to work with as many local companies as possible. Most of its construction-phase partners are already Hungarian firms, reflecting its commitment to regional cooperation. A new agreement with the county organisation of VOSZ (Hungary's National Association of Entrepreneurs and Employers) will further strengthen collaboration with local SMEs, helping them meet high-tech supplier standards and expand internationally. [More >>>](#)

5

### Renewable Energy Community to Be Established in Debrecen

VOSZ (Hungary's National Association of Entrepreneurs and Employers) has launched a new programme to create energy communities based on energy cooperatives, enabling local green-energy production, temporary storage, and on-demand use. The first flagship pilot will be implemented in Debrecen, where the system will already cover 50% of annual energy needs for both industry and households in its initial phase. The initiative supports Debrecen's sustainability goals, with similar communities planned in every county seat. [More >>>](#)



6

### Debrecen Airport Set for Expansion and Increased Traffic

Debrecen Airport is preparing for a major expansion aimed at increasing traffic and passenger numbers. Several Wizz Air routes will be restarted and expanded, and the airport is targeting one million passengers by 2030. Marketing and tourism efforts are being strengthened to support this growth, and new destinations are under evaluation as part of the long-term strategy. The development of the airport is also a priority for the Hungarian Tourism Agency. [More >>>](#)





## 7 BMW Group Plant Debrecen Ramps Up to Two-Shift Operations

Demand for the Debrecen-built BMW iX3 has exceeded expectations, prompting BMW Group Plant Debrecen to introduce a second production shift much earlier than planned. Order books for the fully electric model are full through the end of the year, with more than 50,000 units ordered in the first six months and strong interest from both private and fleet customers. As production ramps up, the plant's workforce has grown to over 4,000 employees, with recruitment ongoing for dozens of additional positions. [More >>>](#)

## 8 Schaeffler Debrecen Reaches Historic Milestone

Schaeffler's Debrecen plant has reached a major milestone, producing 400 million bearings over its more than 25-year history in the city. The factory has evolved from manufacturing traditional bearings to advanced next-generation components, including high-precision ball bearings for electric-drive vehicles since 2020 and tapered roller bearings for premium passenger cars since 2022. The plant now serves a wide range of products — from passenger cars and heavy-duty vehicles to even Debrecen's own trams. [More >>>](#)



## 9 Penum Group Expands with New Debrecen Office

Penum Group, a nationwide service provider that began as a family business more than 25 years ago, now operates not only in Hungary but also in Austria and Germany. Its Debrecen branch is the company's second office in Hungary outside the capital. With the opening of the new site, Penum Group's full range of HR services is now available in Debrecen. As the only Hungarian-owned, publicly listed HR service provider active in three countries, the group continues to expand its presence in key regional centres. [More >>>](#)



## ALAPKÖLETÉTELI CEREMÓNIA



### 10 Modern Truck Terminal to Relieve Debrecen's Road Network Soon

Debrecen is developing a new, modern truck terminal in the North-Western Economic Zone to ease pressure on the city's road network. The 9-hectare facility will accommodate around 260 trucks. The terminal is strategically placed near the M35 motorway, allowing trucks to reach all three major industrial parks within minutes and reducing heavy vehicle traffic inside the city. Construction is starting now, with completion expected in the first half of 2027. The nearby intermodal rail terminal will boost combined freight transport and reinforce Debrecen's logistics role, while the new customs office will keep customs traffic out of the city centre. [More >>>](#)

### 11 The Automotive Cluster Debrecen Launches AI Subcluster to Drive Automotive Innovation

The Automotive Cluster Debrecen has entered a new phase of development with the launch of its AI Subcluster, a strategic initiative designed to accelerate the integration of artificial intelligence across the city's rapidly expanding automotive and battery industries. The subcluster creates a dedicated platform for connecting experts, companies, and innovation partners across the region, while promoting the practical application of artificial intelligence in the automotive industry and beyond. [More >>>](#)



Portfolio  
JÁRMŰIPAR 2026

### 12 Debrecen Hosts Portfolio Automotive Conference Amid Major Sector Shifts

The Portfolio Automotive Conference was held in Debrecen, bringing together industry leaders to discuss the pressures and transformations shaping the European automotive sector. Hungary's automotive industry was presented as undergoing a rapid technological transition, with Debrecen emerging as a key national hub. Speakers highlighted the accelerating shift toward electrification, digitalisation, AI integration, and ESG compliance—now daily operational challenges rather than future trends. [More >>>](#)



# DEBRECEN4U Community & Living

From December 2025, public transport across Hajdú-Bihar County is accessible with a single pass. County passes are valid on Debrecen's local public transport, while DKV passes are also accepted on MÁV trains and Volán regional bus services within Hajdú-Bihar County.

In addition, all children aged 6–14 who attend a kindergarten or school in Debrecen or anywhere in Hajdú-Bihar County can travel free of charge on Debrecen's local public transport (DKV) with their Junior Debrecen City Card. [Registration for Junior Debrecen City Card >>>](#)





## 1 Railway Traffic Resumes Between Debrecen and Balmazújváros

Railway traffic has fully resumed between Debrecen and Balmazújváros following a major reconstruction. The renewed line now offers a 23-minute travel time, more frequent services, and upgraded infrastructure, including complete track renewal between Macs and Balmazújváros, new stops, noise protection, and significant safety improvements. The development strengthens suburban mobility, greatly supports employees commuting to the North-West Economic Zone — the largest workplace hub in Eastern Hungary — and helps ease congestion on Main Road 33. [More >>>](#)

## 2 Pictograms Draw Pedestrians' Attention to Safe Traffic in Debrecen

Debrecen has introduced new pavement pictograms to draw pedestrians' attention to safe road-crossing practices. The markings, placed at busy intersections and school zones, remind people to look up from their phones, check for traffic, and use designated crossings. The initiative is part of the city's broader programme to improve road safety, especially for children and young pedestrians, and supports ongoing awareness campaigns encouraging more attentive, responsible behaviour in urban traffic. [More >>>](#)



## 3 Move, Debrecen! Opens 25th Indoor Venue in Haláp

“Move, Debrecen!”, the city's free community exercise programme designed to make regular physical activity accessible to all residents, continues to expand with the opening of its 25th indoor venue in the Haláp district. The new space offers locals additional opportunities to take part in free, organised exercise sessions throughout the year. With its growing network of indoor and outdoor locations, “Move, Debrecen!” aims to bring sport and movement closer to every neighbourhood, encouraging a healthier and more active lifestyle across Debrecen. [More >>>](#)



#### 4 The Government Is Planning to Add 1,600 New University Dormitory Places in Debrecen

The Hungarian government is planning to create 1,600 new university dormitory places in Debrecen to support the city's growing student population. The development is part of a nationwide programme to expand and modernise higher-education accommodation, ensuring that more students have access to affordable, high-quality housing. In Debrecen, the new dormitory capacity will help meet increasing demand driven by the University of Debrecen's continued growth and internationalisation. [More >>>](#)

#### 5 Real Estate Options Presentation at the Otthon Start Expo in Debrecen

At the Otthon Start Expo in the Kölcsey Centre, real estate developers showcased new housing options, while several banks helped visitors compare low-interest loan offers on the spot. The event highlighted Debrecen's expanding residential market, driven by strong economic and infrastructural growth. Mayor László Papp noted that major new developments are planned in Tócsóvölgy and in the city's southern and eastern districts. [More >>>](#)



#### 6 Debrecen to Upgrade and Expand Playgrounds and Outdoor Fitness Parks

Debrecen is launching a major upgrade and expansion of its playgrounds and outdoor fitness parks. The city plans to renovate existing facilities, install new equipment, and create additional recreational spaces in several neighbourhoods. The developments aim to provide families, children, and adults with more opportunities for safe outdoor activity, while supporting healthier, more active lifestyles across the city. [More >>>](#)





## 7 Wizz Air Launches New Flight from Debrecen

Wizz Air will launch a summer route from Debrecen to Varna, Bulgaria's most popular seaside destination, operating three times a week on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays. Varna—Bulgaria's third-largest and fastest-growing city—offers rich history and a vibrant tourism scene. Tickets are already available through Wizz Air's app and website. As previously announced, flights to Eindhoven, Larnaca and Istanbul will also resume soon, while the restart of the Tel Aviv service remains postponed due to the war. [More >>>](#)

## 8 Sziget-kék Playground Now Ready for This Year's Season

Sziget-Kék playground in Debrecen has reopened for the season after its annual preparations. The popular play area, known for its large, modern equipment and family-friendly design, is once again ready to welcome children and families. The city has completed all necessary maintenance and safety checks to ensure a safe and enjoyable environment throughout the spring and summer. Sziget-kék also functions as a community space, hosting a variety of programmes again this year. [More >>>](#)



## 9 Grandstand Tickets for the Debrecen Flower Carnival Are Now Available

The Debrecen Flower Carnival is one of Hungary's most iconic and spectacular national celebrations, held each year on 20 August since 1966, and it returns in 2026 with events running from 18–23 August. The famous parade features spectacular flower-covered floats and more than 1,500 performers, attracting tens of thousands of visitors. Grandstand tickets for this year's parade are now available, offering reserved seating along the route. [More >>>](#)





DEBRECEN4U

**Sustainability & Future of Debrecen**



# Debrecen's Green Transformation Moves Forward



**In recent years, Debrecen has undergone a remarkable transformation in the field of sustainability, steadily building one of the most comprehensive green development programmes in Hungary.**

Debrecen has become the first Hungarian city to reach the finals of the prestigious European Green Capital competition, placing among the Top 3 greenest European cities with populations over 100,000.

The achievement is especially remarkable given that this was Debrecen's first-ever entry—succeeding where cities such as Pécs and Budapest had previously fallen short.

The final round took place in Vilnius, where Debrecen competed alongside Heilbronn (Germany) and Klagenfurt (Austria).

Although Heilbronn ultimately secured the 2027 title, Debrecen's inclusion among the finalists marks a major milestone and reflects the city's growing role in European sustainability efforts.

Mayor László Papp emphasised that being ranked among Europe's top three green cities is a significant accomplishment in itself.

He described the result as a strong endorsement of Debrecen's forward-looking environmental strategy and a clear sign of the city's rising influence in shaping a greener, more sustainable future.



# Debrecen Green Codex

The Debrecen Green Codex is the city’s comprehensive environmental protection programme—Hungary’s most complex local sustainability framework—containing 50 concrete measures for the period 2023–2026. It was developed jointly by experts from the University of Debrecen and the city’s environmental specialists, and it aligns fully with Hungary’s National Environmental Programme 5.0.

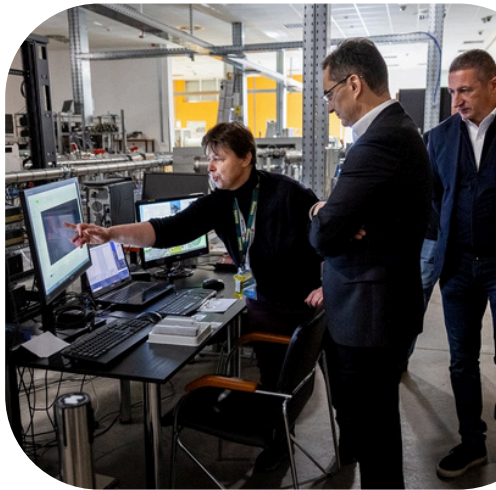
## Key Elements of the Debrecen Green Codex

### Environmental Monitoring System

Debrecen’s Environmental Monitoring System is a city-wide, scientifically designed **network of 16 complex measuring stations and two surface-water testing stations that monitor the city’s air, water, soil, noise levels, and biodiversity 24 hours a day**. It is one of the flagship elements of the city’s Green Codex environmental programme.

### Civaqua Programme

The Civaqua programme is a major long-term water-management and ecological restoration project that brings Tisza River water to Debrecen to revitalise lakes, streams, forests, and local biodiversity. As one of the city’s most important sustainability investments and a key pillar of the Debrecen Green Codex, its first phase was completed in 2023. This milestone now supplies Tisza water to the Tóció headwaters, strengthening green areas and supporting Debrecen’s long-term environmental resilience. Phase II of the Civaqua programme will extend Tisza water to the Nagyerdő, the Erdőspuszta lakes, and the wider eastern and northern areas of Debrecen.



## Creating New Green Corridors in Debrecen

Debrecen is actively developing new green corridors to connect parks, forests, and natural areas across the city, improving both ecological resilience and urban liveability. These corridors link major green zones—such as the Nagyerdő, the Tócsóvölgy, and the Erdőspuszta lakes—creating continuous habitats for wildlife while offering residents cooler, greener public spaces. The initiative forms part of the city’s broader sustainability strategy, supporting biodiversity, reducing heat stress, and strengthening the overall green infrastructure of Debrecen.



## Tree Planting in Debrecen

Debrecen has greatly expanded its tree-planting efforts in recent years, making afforestation a core element of its sustainability strategy. The city’s flagship “Let’s Plant 10,000 Trees” initiative launched a major community-driven planting programme focused on climate-resilient species in parks, neighbourhoods, and public spaces. Its success led to the follow-up campaign, “Let’s Plant 10,000 More Trees,” reinforcing Debrecen’s long-term commitment to expanding green areas, improving air quality, and strengthening climate resilience.



## JövőMűhely (“Future Workshop”)

JövőMűhely is Debrecen’s ongoing strategic planning platform, designed to unite experts, institutions, and community stakeholders in shaping the city’s long-term development vision. It operates as a collaborative “future lab,” where environmental, economic, urban-development, and social priorities are continuously assessed and aligned. By coordinating this forward-looking work, JövőMűhely ensures that major investments and sustainability initiatives fit into a coherent long-term strategy. It serves as the city’s strategic engine room—where planning, analysis, and future-focused thinking come together to guide Debrecen’s development.



**Debrecen Green Codex - Downloadable version available in Hungarian only.**



## 1 Two More Residential Parks to Receive Community Gardens in Debrecen

Debrecen's first community garden has been thriving since 2020 in Vénkert, later followed by new gardens in Újkert and Tócoskert to support healthy, community-based food growing. Created under the Green City Programme, these gardens are cared for enthusiastically by residents. Now, two more residential parks — the Ispotály–Erzsébet block and Tócoskert — will also receive new community gardens, further expanding the city's green network. [More >>>](#)

## 2 Spring Cleaning Begins in Debrecen

As part of Debrecen's annual spring clean-up campaign, municipal crews carry out an extensive programme of public-space maintenance across the city. In addition to collecting rubbish, the work includes the thorough cleaning of roads, pavements, car parks and bus stops to refresh the urban environment ahead of the warmer months. Altogether, 3.2 million square metres of public areas and 733,000 square metres of roadway will be cleaned, ensuring that neighbourhoods across Debrecen benefit from a tidier, more welcoming public realm. [More >>>](#)



## 3 Municipality to Launch Front Garden Improvement Programme

Debrecen's municipality is launching a pilot Front Garden Improvement Programme to help residential communities create and enhance the green areas in front of their buildings. The initiative will begin in Tócoskert and Tócovölgy, offering residents free, climate-resilient plants and professional horticultural advice to support more attractive and better-maintained shared spaces. The programme also aims to strengthen community spirit and recognise the many residents who already care for front gardens voluntarily. [More >>>](#)



#### 4 BMW and CATL Deepen Partnership to Drive Down Carbon Emissions

BMW and CATL have deepened their long-standing partnership to further reduce carbon emissions across the battery supply chain. The new agreement focuses on trusted data exchange and carbon-footprint accounting under the Battery Passport framework, strengthening cooperation that dates back to 2012. The move supports both companies' decarbonisation goals and aligns with tightening EU sustainability requirements.

[More >>>](#)

#### 5 Water-Efficient Biotechnology Under Trial at Debrecen's Eve Power Plant

At the Eve Power Hungary Kft. plant, an innovative technology capable of extracting solvent directly from water is now being tested. The solution has the potential to make battery production significantly more environmentally friendly, cost-effective, and water-efficient. The trial is part of a joint effort by the Bay Zoltán Research Centre and Eve Power Hungary Kft. to scale up a patented biotechnology that uses specialised bacteria to remove the solvent NMP from wastewater. [More >>>](#)



#### 6 Schaeffler Operating in Debrecen Unveils Major New Environmental Commitments

In accordance with the Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive (CSRD), the Schaeffler Group has presented its sustainability statement for the second time as an integral part of its annual report. The company's renewed ESG framework focuses on five key priorities: advancing climate action toward net-zero emissions, transitioning to a circular economy, protecting human rights and working conditions, developing employees for a sustainable future, and ensuring integrity in decision-making. [More >>>](#)





# Tips for Expats

## The Ultimate Dog Run Parks in Debrecen



Whether you live in Debrecen or are visiting with your pet, the city's fenced dog runs provide a pleasant escape for dogs to run, play, and interact with others in a controlled environment.

### Here are some "ground rules" that are important to know:

Dog parks in Debrecen—and across Hungary—offer a welcome space for dogs to play freely, but they operate under clear guidelines to ensure safety and respect for all users. These fenced areas are designated for off-leash activity, yet **owners must maintain control of their pets at all times.**

**Vaccinated and well-socialised dogs are welcome**, while aggressive behaviour or lack of supervision can lead to exclusion.

**Cleanliness is a shared responsibility:** owners are expected to pick up after their dogs and use the waste bins provided.

While the parks encourage spontaneous play and interaction, **dog owners must ensure their pets do not disturb others**, and should avoid bringing more than one dog at a time unless they can manage them safely.





### 1 Vezér Street Reservoir – A Natural Haven for Dogs

Even before its recent development, the Vezér Street reservoir was a well-loved destination for dog walkers. Since the launch of the Civaqua programme's first phase, the area has blossomed into a true paradise for dogs. Every day, pet owners from across Debrecen visit this green oasis, which will soon be enriched with additional dog-friendly features.

### 2 Wesselényi Housing Estate Dog Run

Located in the green space in front of 31–39 Vígkedvű Mihály Street, this 1,600 m<sup>2</sup> dog run features two distinct zones: an agility track for active training and a free play area for socialising and relaxation.

### 3 Újkert Dog Run

Situated at 20 Lehel Street, the Újkert dog run spans nearly 1,100 m<sup>2</sup> and serves as a welcoming community space for both dogs and their owners.

#### Additional Dog Runs Across Debrecen - Similar facilities are available at several other locations:

- 7 Vénkert Street – next to Vénkert Primary School
- 8 István Road – opposite the post office building
- 9 Víztorony housing estate – Keresszegi Street 16
- 10 Mikepércsi Road 61

### 4 Kassai Road Dog Run – Agility Zone

A 250-square-metre skill-building obstacle course has been installed at the Kassai Road dog run, located behind the residential buildings opposite the OMV station. The course features a slalom track, tunnel, tipping platform, ball station, and jumping obstacles—designed to support dogs' agility, coordination, and confidence.

### 5 Békeffy Béla Street Dog Run

Found at 10 Békeffy Béla Street, this dog run includes a securely fenced area, offering a safe environment for pets to play freely.

### 6 Debrecen Dog School – Training and Socialisation

Located on Simon László Street, the Debrecen Dog School offers a dedicated dog run primarily for enrolled dogs. Here, they benefit from structured training and socialisation activities in a safe, supportive environment tailored to their development.





## Public Transportation With Dogs

Following a unanimous decision by the Debrecen General Assembly, **dogs are allowed to travel free of charge on local public transport** starting April 2025.

### **Important Guidelines for Dog Owners:**

Dog owners must carry their pet's vaccination certificate whenever using public transport.

On board, dogs are required to wear a muzzle and be kept on a leash. Small dogs are exempt from this rule, but they must be transported in a secure carrier or bag from which they cannot escape.

Each dog owner may travel with only one dog at a time.

Owners are responsible for ensuring their dogs do not disturb other passengers or animals.

Among larger dogs, only assistance and service dogs performing official duties may travel without a muzzle—but they must still be kept on a leash.

Cats and other small pets have long been allowed to travel free of charge in secure carriers or cages on DKV vehicles, and this policy remains unchanged.

### **Useful Travel Tips for Dog Owners**

- Help your dog get used to public transport by starting with short trips to acclimate them to noise and crowds.
- Always carry water to keep your pet hydrated before and after boarding.
- Reward good behaviour with a treat after the ride.
- Always use a muzzle and leash to ensure passenger safety and avoid unpleasant situations.





## **Easter Activities for Families**



Eggs, lambs, rabbits, and spring flowers all symbolise life, fertility, and hope. These symbols appear in many European cultures, including Hungarian traditions.



**With the arrival of nice weather and the occasion of Easter, numerous events are awaiting families in Debrecen and the surrounding area. In this article, we have gathered a few exciting programmes that are well worth exploring together over the long weekend between 3 and 6 April.**

### **Brandnyúl and Friends at the Amusement Park**

On Easter Monday, children can look forward to group singing, dancing and plenty of fun at Zoo Debrecen's Amusement Park.

### **Easter Wonderland at Aquaticum**

A cheerful Easter atmosphere will fill the Mediterranean Indoor Aquapark, where children and their families can enjoy playful water adventures and creative activities. During the afternoon, bunny-themed crafts will be made in the creative corner, while exciting water games in the pools will keep spirits high. There will be splash battles, underwater egg hunts, and plenty of laughter.

### **Easter adventures at the Derecske Experience Garden**

Bunny petting, tractor-led egg hunts, a craft corner, and skill games are just some of the many activities on offer, ensuring that everyone will be pleasantly tired by the end of the day.

### **Bunnyville Comes to Life at Zoo Debrecen**

At Easter, egg hunts, egg exhibitions, and animal feeding demonstrations await both children and adults at Zoo Debrecen.

### **Egg Painting Workshop at Carol Culinary Workshop**

As part of a full-day traditional event, participants in the workshop can prepare both breakfast and lunch together, including traditional Easter dishes such as plaited sweet bread. In addition, during the afternoon, there will be communal egg painting and chocolate moulding, with all materials provided.

### **Easter Bunny Festival at the Forgotten Castle**

A full day of family programmes, interactive performances, fun games and unforgettable experiences await all, ensuring that Easter is not only about traditional sprinkling customs but also about carefree entertainment.



# OVERVIEW OF THE 2026 PROGRAM LINE-UP

*A season of great events from May to August*

## Debrecen Spring Festival

9 - 18 April 2026

The Kölcsey Centre will once again come alive with music, ideas, and shared experiences. This year's Spring Festival is especially meaningful, opening the celebrations for the venue's 20th anniversary.

## Debrecen Drive

29-31 May 2026

The Great Forest Stadium will transform into a hub of motorsport, family fun, and industry networking for one of Hungary's largest automotive showcases, bringing innovation and excitement to all ages.

## Debrecziner Gourmet Festival

12 -14 June 2026

The 10th edition of the region's biggest culinary festival offers a three-day exploration of global flavours, cultures, and traditions at Lake Békás.

## Campus Festival

22 -26 July 2026

Campus Festival is one of Hungary's largest summer music and cultural events, held each year in Debrecen's Nagyerdő. This year, the festival hosts more than 125 artists, including international headliners Armin van Buuren (NL) and Scooter (DE).

## Debrecen Flower Carnival

18 -23 August 2026

Honouring a tradition spanning seventy years, the city once again welcomes visitors to a week of blossoms, joy, and celebration, filled with floral creativity, cultural programmes, and shared community experiences.

## Debrecen Jewish Cultural Days and Street Festival

26 - 31 May 2026

Debrecen's Jewish Quarter will come to life again with concerts, exhibitions, guided tours, children's programmes, book presentations, and kosher cuisine, offering visitors an immersive introduction to Jewish traditions.

## Hortobágy Equestrian Days

5 -7 June 2026

Hortobágy Equestrian Days is a celebrated traditional festival showcasing the horse-riding heritage of the Hortobágy region. Visitors can experience spectacular riding shows, the skills of the iconic csikós horsemen, and a range of cultural programs rooted in the life of the Great Hungarian Plain.

## Debrecen Wine and Jazz Days

6 -8 August 2026

The heart of the Great Forest will once again blend fine wines, gentle melodies, and the unmistakable charm of summer nights.





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