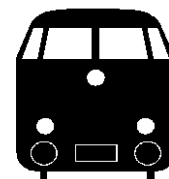


THE HUNGARIAN RAILTOUR

(8 DAY TOUR BY RAIL)

Saturday 14th to Saturday 21st April, 2012



COST ELEMENTS

Base Cost - £359.45 (Mandatory)

Hotel Single Room Supplement - £130.00 (Optional)

4 Day First Class InterRail Hungary Pass - £132.00 (Optional)

4 Day Second Class InterRail Hungary Pass - £91.00 (Optional)

Second Class Rail Travel – Over 65 – FREE

(Means of identification & proof of age, must be carried)

Extra night at End of Tour – (Optional)

£35.00 Sharing Twin (If available)

£52.00 Single Occupancy

Please book by 3 February, with a Minimum Deposit of £90

The balance must be paid by 2 March

Someone, who for reasons of his own personal safety must remain anonymous, rather unkindly coined this tour the “Geriatrics Railtour”. He was of course referring to the fact that Rail travel in Hungary is free for the over 65s, and an element which will make this tour so attractive to those of the ‘third age’. The downside is that you are restricted to Standard Class, but you can upgrade to First by paying the difference between the Classes. For those who have yet to attain the ‘Magic Age’, InterRail Passes will be required and, as always, you have the choice of First or Second Class. Depending on how good a deal you can get with your air fare, this could be your most economical STARS Railtour ever.

This will be our fifth Hungarian Railtour. The first ran in 1999, there was then a gap of 5 years and two ran consecutively in 2004 and 2005 (‘London busses’ are you thinking?), again in 2009, and now we offer it again after 3 years. Each running was a great success, enjoyed by all who participated, and made so by MAV granting us a ‘blanket’ permit to visit any installation in the Country. Once again we can expect to have such official authority, and coupled with the experience and knowledge gained on visits over ten years, we can be relied upon to cover the Depots and ‘Hotspots’ which will make extensive inroads into your Hungarian requirements.

We know that there is considerable interest in the unique Hungarian narrow gauge systems. Unfortunately we will not have the time needed to fully explore them on this tour. However, if narrow gauge is your priority, and you have no objection to sacrificing visits to some MAV depots, we will work out an additional itinerary, including directions, which will take in the depots and lines at Huvosvolgy, Balatonfenyves, Nyiregyhaza Nyk, and Kecskemet KK, in order that those who so wish, can clear all the MAV 760mm diesels of Classes 2920 (Ex.C50), 2945 (Ex Mk45) and 2948 (Ex Mk48). **Note. Those who wish to concentrate on the narrow gauge lines should ensure we are informed at the time of booking.**

Our hotel, facing Keleti Station, could not be better placed. The best means of travel during your stay will be by using the economical Budapest Three Day Public Transport Ticket, **but please note that this is not included in your fare.** You must also arrange your own flight, or overland travel.

ITINERARY

Days One to Three – Saturday 14th to Monday 16th April

The first three days are identical to the first three of **The Budapest Flyer Tour** (details on **Pages 8 & 9** of this publication), and we will be accompanied by participants of that tour.

Day Four – Tuesday 17th April

Having said farewell to the other group, it is time for us to take to the Main Lines. First up is the very large **Szekesfehervar Depot** lying to the south-west. From here a choice can be made. You can continue and take in **Dombovar Depot** and **Pecs Depot**. Alternatively you can continue along the southern edge of Lake Balaton to **Balatonfenyves** for a visit to the 760mm Depot and line.

Day Five – Wednesday 18th April

In the far East waiting for us is the sizeable **Nyregghaza Depot**. That will be followed by visits to **Zahony** and **Miskolc Depots**. **Zahony** is a dual gauge depot which is not only home to the nine 1524mm gauge Class M62s, but is the only depot to boast examples of each sub class within the M40s, namely M40/0, M40/1, M40/2 and M40/9. It may be possible to insert a ‘swift’ visit to the 760mm gauge **Nyregghaza Nyk Depot**.

Day Six – Thursday 19th April

Today the South East is our direction for visits to **Szolnolc Depot**, **Szentes Depot** and **Szeged Depot**. It is hoped that the trains will run favourably in order that **Kiskunhalas Depot** can also be included. If your interest is ‘narrow gauge’ a visit **Keckskemet KK Depot** is possible, but it would have to be at the expense of one of the other Depots.

Day Seven – Friday 20th April

Very much a Gysev day today with visits to **Gyor** and **Sopron Depots**. Its then back to MAV with visits to **Szombathely Depot** and **Celldomolk Depot**.

Day Eight – Saturday 21st April

Officially the last day of the Tour and time to all part company. However, you may want another day – no problem. On your request we can arrange for you to stay another night and thus give you another day in the Country. With your extra day you may consider the minor Depots we did not cover, such as **Hatvan**, **Fuzesabony**, **Debrecen**, and **Puspoladany**

**Remember – Do Not Book Your Flight
Until We have Confirmed The Tour As Running**