

# Urban Sketchers Meetup Budapest 2024

08/AUG/2024 Thursday

## B - Ferenciek tere (Franciscans square)

Located in the center of Pest's historic city center, the square is an important traffic junction. The Franciscan church of Pest on Ferenciek Square - from which the square takes its name - and the ancestor of the monastery were built between 1250 and 1260. The original Gothic church turned out to be small, so the Franciscan monks started building a new church in 1727. The baroque church that still stands today was consecrated in 1743.



In 1898, the construction of the Eskü tér bridge (=oath square bridge) (today the new Erzsébet (Elisabeth) bridge stands in its place) began, which required a slight reorganization of the downtown area. The bridge had to be connected to Hatvani (today Lajos Kossuth) street. The Inner-City Parish Church Budapest, which is still standing today, was left, it was bypassed by the bridgehead, but due to the widening of Hatvani utca, the Old Pest town hall on Kígyó utca also had to be demolished. (It was replaced by the northern Klotild palace.) The southern one was built earlier, the two houses were built between 1899 and 1902. Ferenciek Square was north-south, connecting Kecskemét Street with Crown Prince, now Sándor Petőfi Street. The buildings still visible today were built before the First World War.



After World War II, the square was called Felszabadulás tér (Liberation square), and from 1991 it became Ferenciek tere again.

#### **D - Március 15. tér (March 15 square)**

The square at the foot of the Erzsébet bridge and Budapest's oldest church is the gate of the Danube river. In Roman times, the Contra-Aquincum lime guard tower stood here. The remains of the watchtower of the Roman emperor Diocletianus, built at the end of the 3rd century and ensuring the crossing of the ferry, were previously visible in the middle of the square.



Today, after the complete renovation of the square, they can be seen in a covered exhibition space in the middle of the square - unfortunately, very badly.



In the Middle Ages it was called Halpiac (Fish market) or Hal tér (Fish square), in the 18th century Kirchenplatz (Church square in the Swabian language), in the 19th century Egyháztér (Church square) (1872), then Eskü tér (Oath square) (1874). It got its current name on the centenary of the outbreak of the 1848-49 revolution and war of independence. The Petőfi statue inaugurated in 1882 in the neighboring Petőfi Square also overlooks this square. The Downtown Parish Church was built here on 13th-century foundations. At the end of the 18th century, the Piarist High School and monastery were built on the eastern side of the square, on the site of the old Pest town hall built in the 17th century.



### **F - Vigadó tér (Redoute square)**

It was once the Pest bridgehead of the boat bridge leading to Buda. Here stood the Redoute, designed by Mihály Pollack in 1813 in a classicist style, which was destroyed in 1849. In its place, Pesti Vigadó (Pester Redoute) was built between 1859 and 1865 in a romantic style, based on Frigyes Feszl's plans.



It was called Redoutenplatz in the 1870s, Vigadó square from 1879, Molotov square from 1946, and Vigadó square again from 1957. The ornamental well was erected in 1896, but in 1945 the monument to the Soviet pilots was inaugurated in its place. It was brought back in 2000; since then it has been in its original place.



On the cast-iron railing of the square on the Danube side, you can see the bronze statue "Little Princess", created by László Marton.



**F-G - Jane Haining rakpart (Jane Haining wharf)**

Before 2023, the Jane Haining wharf was the most neglected section of the downtown Danube banks, while the disorganized design was coupled with significant pedestrian traffic thanks to the docks.



The aim of the developments is to create a public square full of life and richer in greenery, primarily for pedestrians, which is worthy of the unparalleled panorama in Budapest. We create a more pleasant environment by placing shades and plant boxes on the basically treeless section, which is heavily exposed to the sun, and we provide comfortable seating with benches, sunbeds and picnic tables. By opening the premises of the viaduct that forms the track of tram 2, we create the opportunity for the appearance of cafes and bars, information points and other services. On summer weekends, the quay is closed to traffic and the quay to pedestrians.



## G - Széchenyi tér (Széchenyi square)

At the foot of the Lánchíd (Chain bridge) in Pest lies the Danube River, as part of the world heritage.. Earlier, at the beginning of the 18th century, it was known as Ács tér (Carpenter square), then in 1847 Kirakodó tér (Unloading square) or Rakpiac (Dock market), not long after Lánchíd tér (Chainbridge square), then at the end of the century Ferenc József tér (Franz Josef square), after 1945 Roosevelt square, from May 5, 2011 Széchenyi square .



The building of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, the Roosevelt Office Building, the Gresham Palace (today: Four Seasons Hotel Gresham Palace), the Ministry of the Interior, and the Sofitel Budapest Chain Bridge hotel (currently being renovated) are located here.).



In the northern part of the park that fills the square, there is a statue of István Széchenyi, in the southern part of Ferenc Deák, and in front of the MTA building is a statue of Gábor Szarvas. The Lloyd Palace and the Diana Baths were once here, but they were damaged in the Second World War, demolished and replaced by an office building and a hotel.

*(Ligeti Zsuzsa)*