



Hunting in HUNGARY



SURFACE AREA

Surface area	93.000 km ²
Woodlands	15.700 km ²
Farming area	63.670 km ²
Huntable area	89.000 km ²
Average huntable area	86% of total surface area
Average surface per hunter	146 ha

HUNTER/POPULATION

Population	9.000.000
Number of Hunters	50.000
% Hunters	0.5%
Hunters / Inhabitants	1/180
Population density inhabitants/km ²	107



Socio-demographic profile of Hungarian hunters

Blue-collar workers and farmers	35,6%	Under 30 years old	11,3%
White-collar workers	23,8%	30-50 years old	51,1%
Pensioners	2,2%	51-70 years old	34,1%
Other	14,4%	Over 70 years old	3,5%

Gender

Women represent 1,2% of the active hunters



HUNTING SYSTEM

Administrative bodies

- Ministry of Agriculture and Regional Development
- Ministry of Environment and Water

Hunters' associations



National association: *Országos Magyar Vadászati Védegylet*

President: Dr. László SZEKELY



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There are currently 715 hunting clubs with hunting territories, and a further 400 without. Most of the 715 clubs have elected district associations, which in turn elect the national hunters' association. With its 40.000 members, the national association is the highest representative of the Hungarian hunters.



LEGAL PROVISIONS

Hunting system

The law 1996/LV (laws for the protection of game, game management and hunting) is completed by other laws regulating forestry (law 1996/LIV) and nature conservation (law 1996/LIII).

Hunting rights, as well as game, belong to the State; they can be transferred to hunting clubs, which can rent territories over varying periods. 83% of the huntable land is leased in this way; the remaining 17% is hunted over by the authorities.

Authorised hunting methods

Authorised hunting methods other than shooting are bow hunting and falconry. Trapping and hunting with hounds are illegal.

SHOOTING EXAMINATION, HUNTING PERMIT

Examination

This compulsory examination is supervised by a State examination board. Preparatory courses are available. The domains covered include:

- THEORY: game management, hunting law & methods, firearms, wildlife, ethics
- PRACTICE: firearms handling, shooting test, first aid

Hunting permits & insurance

The compulsory permit can be obtained from the hunting authorities following the examination. Third party insurance is also necessary.

Delivery of Visitors hunting licences

Foreigners wishing to hunt in Hungary need:

- Hunting license which can be obtained by foreign citizens at least 18 years of age, and having: a valid hunting contract or a letter of invitation for guest hunting.
- a license for the import of the hunting weapon which can be obtained from the Hungarian custom authorities, and the license is provided when the prospective guest hunter presents his or her valid letter of invitation (the applicant must be indicated by name), a hunting-gun license that is valid in the visitor's own country (or equivalent certification), presents his or her valid passport and pays a custom fee. The license is valid for 90 days, thus hunting-guns must not be kept in Hungary for a longer period.
- a hunting weapon license (or license for keeping hunting-bow or birds of prey) that is valid in his or her own country
- a valid hunter's liability insurance for compensating the occasional damages caused during the hunting (it has to cover the period for that the hunting license is valid).

The guest hunters pay a fee for the hunting license. The license can be obtained either directly by the guest hunter, by the representative of the guest hunter, or through the hunting company that has entered into a hunting contract with the guest hunter.

FIREARMS, CALIBRE & AMMUNITION

The firearms permit applies to both shotgun and rifles. It is subject to a police-administered examination; applicants must produce their hunting examination pass certificate, hunting permit and health certificate.

Calibre restrictions do not apply, and semi-automatic/repeating shotguns are permitted.

- **ROE DEER** Minimum striking energy at 100m: over 1000 J
- **OTHER LARGE GAME** Minimum striking energy at 100m: over 2500 J

Wild boar may be hunted with Brenneke slug ammunition, but semi-automatic/repeating firearms may not be used in this case.

Travel to Hungary with firearms

Having concluded a contract with a hunting bureau, foreign visitors are sent an invitation on the basis of which the customs issue the necessary firearms and ammunition import permits, which must be produced at the border on departure.

GAME & HUNTING SEASON

Big game

Red deer stag, mature	:	1 September-31 October
- Stag, cull		1 September-31 January
- Hind		1 September-31 January
- Calf		1 September-28 February
Fallow deer buck, mature	:	1 October-31 December
- Buck, cull		1 October-31 January
- Doe		1 October-31 January
- Calf		1 October-28 February
Roe deer buck:		15 April-30 September
- Doe, kid		1 October-28 February
Mouflon ram, ewe, lamb:		1 September-28 February
Wild boar		
- Boar, pig, piglet		over the whole year
- Sow		1 May-31 January
Sika deer		
- Stag, hind, calf		1 September-31 December

Feathered game and other small game

Hare		1 October-20 January
Rabbit		1 September-31 January
Pheasant cock		1 October-31 January
- hen		
Partridge		1 October-31 December
Bean goose		1 October-31 January
White-fronted goose		1 October-31 January
Fox, Muskrat, Raccoon dog,		
Raccoon		over the whole year
Golden jackal, Badger		1 June-28 February
Polecat, Stone marten		1 September-28 February
Mallard, Teal, Coot		1 September-31 January
Pochard, Goldeneye		1 October-31 January
Garganey		without hunting season
Woodcock		1 March-10 April
Collared dove		15 August-28 February
Wood pigeon		15 August-31 October
Hooded crow, Magpie		1 July-28 February
Jay		1 August -28 February

- Game damage compensation: the right owner is responsible for game damage to crops and forestry and for road accident damage.

- Management: ten-year game management plans are coordinated by the Komitatsbehörden within the Agriculture Ministry. Their implementation is monitored by the hunting authorities.

GUNDOGS

Pointers, Springers and Retrievers are used on Pheasant, Partridge, Hare and Waterfowl. Bloodhounds are used for tracking wounded large game. Terriers and Dachshunds are proven underground dogs, but also serve alongside other dogs for driving Wild boar.

CULTURE

Hunting Museums



Matra Muzeum

Vadászati Gyűjtemény
3200 Gyöngyös Kossuth u. 40
Phone: + 36-37-311 447



Mezőgazdasági Muzeum

(Agriculture museum with permanent hunting exhibition)
Allando Vadászat Kiállítás
1146 Budapest Varosliget, Széchenyi I sziget
Phone: + 36-1*-142 3198

Hunting Press



NIMROD (magazine of the national hunters' association)

www.nimrod.hu