CHALLENGES





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The Hungarian Countryside - Look how happy I am and that's not even DH

Thursday, June 13, 2013



Although Budapest is a beautiful city, I was pleased that our cruise including excursions to the countryside.

The young man in the photo above is one of the highly trained horsemen following a long tradition.



There were many other kinds of animals too. These reminded me of the Texas longhorns, but I don't think our cattlemen ever use them to pull wagons.

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Hungarian food? Goulash comes to mind immediately and it was delicious.

Hungarian spices? Paprika, of course and we visited areas of cultivation and processing and checked out the resulting products.



We bought a small bottle of paprika vodka! We haven't tried it yet.

There was also a reconstruction of a traditional house from a hundred years ago. Considering the number of rooms and the quality of the crafts and furnishings, I think the purpose was to demonstrate the traditions of the country rather than to document an average person's home.



The women of the family were the ones to hand-paint the floral patterns on the walls and furniture.



The number of quilts on the beds were one way to determine the wealth of the family. These guys must have been pretty well off although the guide said that sometimes people padded the bed with straw to make themselves look richer.

Remembering some conversations with my immigrant grandmother, no one she knew had anything like this. Of course, to paraphrase a Seinfeld episode – if you had all that, why would you leave and come to America?

Life was not as good for my grandmother in Hungarian occupied Slovakia. She bundled everything she owned into a carpetbag and set off alone at age 17 for the USA.

I often consider how different my life would have been if she had not done that.

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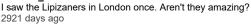
NWFL59



Thanks for sharing your vacation experiences and sights. 2921 days ago



BARDIC_GRRL





BOILHAM

What a wonderful vacation you are having. I would love to see Hungary. $2921 \ \mathrm{days}$ ago



MERRYMARY42

You have been doing a great job of sharing your vacation, love the pictures and the stories that go with them 2922 days ago



CELIAMINER

Quick visit due to internet issues...love these blogs! 2922 days ago



BOOKAPHILE

I love reading your story/history. My husband is 1/4 Bohemian, which he has always described as located in the western third of the old Czechoslovakia. Maybe someday we'll be able to visit those areas.

2923 days ago

CD13629552

Your title was very cute! I am SUPPOSED to be getting off the internet now and doing



something serious but with a juicy title like that, well, how could I resist?

Great photos, as always!

(and you do indeed look mighty happy with that handsome young horseman!) 2923 days ago



DR1939

We took a trip out to a similar farm. I agree, it was a highlight.



v



SUZYMOBILE

How beautiful and how different from what we look at every day. And yet all of it must speak to your genetic soul!





PHEBESS

Beautiful photos, it must have been amazing in real life!

And I know what you mean about the choices - had my grandfather not left Russia/Poland as a young man, what would my family's lives have been like? So different, just worlds apart! 2923 days ago



GINIEMIE

My husband was of Hungarian Bohemian descent. I never did learn any of the stories-he wasn't interested in that, and his paternal grandmother died early in our marriage.

Thanks for sharing, love the pics and I ONLY use HUNGARIAN paprika for Chicken Paprikash and Hungarian Goulash.







2923 days ago



KELLIEBEAN

Incredible!

Can you imagine, being 17 years old, packing up and heading to a new, strange country?! I love stories like this.

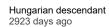
Thank you so much for sharing. Great pictures! 2923 days ago



BELLACUDDLES

WOW......I saw this blog post on the "side" and being that my grandma came over on a boat from Budapest as a young girl, about 16 with her aunt, I just had to come see your pictures! Thanks.....I smiled through them all!! I especially love the paprika picture!!!









SOPHIEDO13

Cool ... I love the family story of your 17 yr old grandmother !! 2923 days ago



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WILSONWR

I wish more folks realized what their family had to go through.. We have all benefited greatly from the sacrifices of those who came before us. Some even gave it all.

Thanks for sharing the parts of your vacation - It's really great to see the pictures of the places and culture of other parts of the world.
2923 days ago



CHERALA

Thank you for sharing the Hungarian Countryside through your eyes! 2923 days ago



JOYNEW

Fun trip! Glad you're having a good time! 2923 days ago



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result of following the SparkPeople program.