

## CULTURAL INSTITUTIONS

- **Puppet Theatre**  
Budai u. 15., Tel./Fax.: +36/76/482-217, [www.ciroka.hu](http://www.ciroka.hu)
- **Katona József Theatre**  
Katona József tér 5., Tel.: +36/76/501-170, [www.kecskemetikatona.hu](http://www.kecskemetikatona.hu)
- **Kelemen László Chamber Theatre**  
Rákóczi út 15., Tel.: +36/76/501-170, [www.kecskemetikatona.hu](http://www.kecskemetikatona.hu)
- **Ruszt József Studio Theatre**  
Katona József tér 10., Tel.: +36/76/501-170, [www.kecskemetikatona.hu](http://www.kecskemetikatona.hu)
- **Hírös Agóra Youth Centre**  
Kossuth tér 4., Tel.: +36/76/481-686, 76/481-523, [www.hirosagora.hu](http://www.hirosagora.hu)
- **Hírös Agóra Cultural and Youth Centre**  
Deák Ferenc tér 1., Tel.: +36/76/503-880, [www.hirosagora.hu](http://www.hirosagora.hu)
- **Katona József Library**  
Piaristák tere 8., Tel.: +36/76/500-550, [www.bacstudastar.hu](http://www.bacstudastar.hu)
- **Planetarium**  
Lánchíd u. 18/a, Tel.: +36/76/505-075, [www.plan.hu](http://www.plan.hu)

## SPORT

- **Kecskemét Bath / Swimming-pool, Aqua Park and Thermal Bath, Sauna park /**  
Csabay Géza krt. 5., Tel.: +36/76/500-320, [www.kecskemetifurdo.hu](http://www.kecskemetifurdo.hu)
- **Kecskemét Aqua Park**  
Csabay Géza körút 2., Tel.: +36/76/417-407, +36/76/500-320, [www.kecskemetifurdo.hu](http://www.kecskemetifurdo.hu)
- **Benkó Zoltán Leisure Centre**  
Csabay Géza krt. 7., Tel.: +36-20/282-1128, [www.szabadidokozpont-kecskemet.hu](http://www.szabadidokozpont-kecskemet.hu)
- **Cable Wakeboarding**  
Csabay Géza krt. 7., Tel.: +36/70/408-3688, [www.ridecable.hu](http://www.ridecable.hu)
- **Calvinist Church Swimming Pool**  
Szabadság tér 7., Tel.: +36/76/501-655, [www.krek.hu](http://www.krek.hu)
- **Gokart Stadium**  
Szent László krt. 64., Tel.: +36-30/866-0602, [www.gokart.birizdokart.hu](http://www.gokart.birizdokart.hu)
- **Bowling Center**  
Rávány tér 3., Tel.: +36/76/486-936, [www.bowling-center.hu](http://www.bowling-center.hu)

## USEFUL INFORMATION

- **Railway Station** Kodály Z. tér 7., Tel.: +36/76/323-721
- **Local bus station** Széchenyi tér, Tel.: +36/76/321-793
- **Coach station** Noszlopy G. park 1., Tel.: +36/76/321-777
- **Post Office** Kálvin tér 10-12.
- **Market** Budai u. 2.
- **Police** Batthyány u. 14., Tel.: +36/76/484-684 or 107

## NATURAL HERITAGE

- **Kiskunság National Park Headquarters and The House of Nature**  
Liszt Ferenc u. 19., Tel.: +36/76/482-611, [www.knp.hu](http://www.knp.hu)
- **Arboretum**  
Mary's Chapel, Look-out tower, Promenade of Hungarian Saints, playground  
Nyíri út 48., Tel.: +36/76/492-455, [www.kecskemetiarboretum.hu](http://www.kecskemetiarboretum.hu)
- **Nyíri woods**  
St. Hubertus Chapel, Memorial Museum of 1848  
Kecskemét-Hetényegyháza, Tel.: +36/76/707-872, [www.kefag.hu](http://www.kefag.hu)
- **Wildlife Park**  
Animals from 5 continents, trophy-collection  
Műkerti sétány 1., Tel.: +36/76/320-121, [www.zookecskemet.hu](http://www.zookecskemet.hu)



### Published by:

Local Government of Kecskemét,  
Szemereyné Pataki Klaudia

### Layout:

Raster Stúdió Kft., Kecskemét

### Photos:

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# KECSKEMÉT

SIGHTS | HISTORIC PLACES



## WELCOME TO KECSKEMÉT!

Kecskemét lies in the middle of Hungary, 86 kilometres south of Budapest. The settlement was established at the cross-roads of ancient trading routes and its location and favourable geographical characteristics brought the town into the limelight. The charter of 1368 by King Louis the Great mentions it as a market-town. It preserved its market-town character for centuries, and the extensive farming, the special vine- and fruit-growing culture resulted in the growth of the town.

Kecskemét has been the seat of Bács-Kiskun county since 1950; it has got over 112,000 inhabitants and it is a dynamically developing industrial, commercial and cultural centre. Due to its logistic conditions, the significant industrial development and the establishment of the Mercedes-Benz plant Kecskemét became Hungary's automotive centre of national significance in 2012. The town also hosts scientific institutions, workshops and unique collections of music, fine arts, world-famous animated films, and a whole range of recurring festivals year by year.

By the turn of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, the market-place of the one-time market town transformed into one of the most beautiful main squares of Hungary. Its beautiful, distinctive buildings reflect the main characteristics of Art Nouveau, Eclecticism and Baroque styles. Churches of almost all denominations can be found on the main square, which is unique in the country.

## BIG CATHOLIC CHURCH

The distinctive building of the main square was built between 1774 and 1806. It is the biggest Late Baroque cathedral on the Great Plain. Its clockwork is one of the oldest ones still operating in the country, and it has the largest clock-face of all the clock towers in Hungary.



## TOWN HALL

The outstanding example of Hungarian Art Nouveau was built between 1893-97 by the plans of Ödön Lechner and Gyula Pártos. The style of the building is a mixture of French Renaissance architecture and the elements of Hungarian folk art. For visiting the Ceremonial Hall reservations are required. (Tel.: 00 36 76 481 065). The carillon at the balcony has been operating since 1983. Hungarian classics (Kodály,

Erkel) are played at 12.05, Handel, Beethoven and Mozart at 18.05 and Hungarian folk songs at 20.00.

## SZENT MIKLÓS CHURCH

The oldest architectural monument in the town is the Franciscan Church built in the 14<sup>th</sup> century; locals call it the Church of Friars. It was originally built in Romanesque style; it has earned its Baroque stylistical characteristics upon several reconstructions. It had been used both by Catholics and Protestants until 1564, which is unique in our history of religion.



## KODÁLY ZOLTÁN INSTITUTE OF MUSIC PEDAGOGY

Kodály Zoltán Institute of Music Pedagogy is placed in the one-time Franciscan monastery, and hosts an exhibition introducing the life and work of the Kecskemét-born famous composer and music educator, Zoltán Kodály (1882-1967). The institute established in 1975 provides post-graduate trainings for foreign music pedagogues focusing on Kodály's conception of music education.



## KODÁLY MONUMENT

The Psalmus Hungaricus monument – next to the side entrance of the Calvinist church – was dedicated in 2007, on the 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Kodály's birth. It honours the memory of both the great composer and Mihály Kecskeméti Vég, another remarkable person born in Kecskemét.

## KATONA JÓZSEF THEATRE

The theatre was built on the occasion of the Millennium in Neo-Baroque style. Its resemblance to Vígszínház in Budapest is not coincidental, they were both built by the plans of the famous Vienna architects, Hellmer and Fellner. The Column of the Holy Trinity erected in 1742 reminds us of the epidemic of Black Death that took a heavy toll on the population.



## NEW CALVINIST COLLEGE

It was built by the plans of Valér Mende between 1911-13. Today, the palace with Art Nouveau influence, decorated with Transylvanian motives, hosts the Calvinist Primary and Secondary Grammar School.

## CIFRA PALACE (CIFRAPALOTA)

This unique piece of architecture is known as the masterpiece of Art Nouveau, with its wonderful curved walls, shining roof tiles and ceramic ornaments made in Zsolnay Factory. Today, the one-time town tenement house and casino hosts the Art Gallery of the Katona József Museum.



## SYNAGOGUE

The Moorish-Romantic style former synagogue was converted into a conference centre during the 1970s. The replicas of 15 Michelangelo sculptures are exhibited in the building known as the House of Science and Technology.

## LUTHERAN CHURCH

It was built in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Miklós Ybl's masterpiece decorated with Neo-romanesque motives was hidden by stores until the end of the 1980s. Due to its remarkable acoustics, the building gives a regular venue for concerts.



## YOUTH CENTRE

The former craftsmen's house is a typical Art Nouveau building with characteristic motives of the style on its front. Today it hosts children's programs, clubs and summer clubs.

## MUSEUMS

- **Bozsó Collection**  
Klapka u. 34., Tel.: +36/76/417-130, [www.gyujtemenyekhaza.hu](http://www.gyujtemenyekhaza.hu)
- **'Cifrapalota' Art Gallery**  
Rákóczi út 1., Tel.: +36/76/480-776, [www.muzeum.kecskemet.hu](http://www.muzeum.kecskemet.hu)
- **Katona József Memorial House**  
Katona József u. 5., Tel.: +36/76/328-420, [www.nepiiparmuveszet.hu/kje.html](http://www.nepiiparmuveszet.hu/kje.html)
- **Leskowsky Collection of Musical Instruments**  
Rákóczi út 15., Tel.: +36/76/486-616, [www.hangszergyujtemeny.hu](http://www.hangszergyujtemeny.hu)
- **Hungarian Museum of Photography**  
Katona József tér 12., Tel.: +36/76/483-221, [www.fotomuzeum.hu](http://www.fotomuzeum.hu)
- **Museum of Hungarian Naive Artists**  
Gáspár András u. 11., Tel.: +36/76/324-767, [www.muzeum.kecskemet.hu](http://www.muzeum.kecskemet.hu)
- **International Ceramics Studio**  
Kápolna u. 11., Tel./Fax.: +36/76/486-867, [www.icshu.org](http://www.icshu.org)
- **International Workshop and Collection of Enamel Art**  
Bethlen krt. 16., Tel.: +36/76/482-123, [www.enamel-art.hu](http://www.enamel-art.hu)
- **Collection of Folk Art**  
Serfőző u. 19/a, Tel. Fax.: +36/76/327-203, [www.nepiiparmuveszet.hu](http://www.nepiiparmuveszet.hu)
- **Medical and Pharmaceutical History Collection**  
Kölcsey u. 3., Tel.: +36/76/329-964, [www.muzeum.kecskemet.hu](http://www.muzeum.kecskemet.hu)
- **Ráday Museum of Calvinist Ecclesiastical History**  
Kálvin tér 1., Tel.: +36/76/486-226, [www.radaymuzeum.hu](http://www.radaymuzeum.hu)
- **'Szórákaténusz' Toy Museum and Workshop**  
Gáspár András u. 11., Tel./Fax.: +36/76/481-469, [www.szorakatenusz.hu](http://www.szorakatenusz.hu)
- **House of Science and Technics**  
Rákóczi út 2., Tel.: +36/76/322-788, [www.titbkkm.hu](http://www.titbkkm.hu)
- **Zwack Kecskemét Palinka Distillery**  
Matkói út 2., Tel.: +36-76/487-711, [www.zwackunicum.hu](http://www.zwackunicum.hu)