

Part 21 Europe for Cathy's blog

Wednesday April 24th, 2025.



The view from our hotel window.

Today's main sightseeing is St. Stephen's Cathedral.

(Szent Istvan)

Saint Stephen was the first King of Hungary (975 - 1038).

The site once held animal fights but a small church building was built in the 1800's. The people raised the money for the church. It was badly damaged by bombs in WWII, but the cellars housed refugees and the National Archives (and all survived).

The right hand of Saint Stephen had a complicated history of its own, but was brought to the church and is now housed in glass. (See below)



Here are just some of the pictures I took in the Cathedral.













Above the ceiling dome but below the outside dome.



One of the towers.



Buda Hill and the Budapest Eye.



Some of Budapest, looking towards Heroes Square. The balloon in the distance is tethered. It is in the gardens near the zoo (just near Heroes Square).



This is a replica of the crown (kept in the Treasury in St. Stephen's).



The entrance to St. Stephen's.



Szent Istvan's bazilika.

We walked on to find the Memorial of the Victims of the German Occupation.



It is controversial, perhaps in what it does not show. You can read about it for yourself.

Then we walked on to the Houses of Parliament.
The present Hungarian Prime Minister has been in power since 2010. The weekly protests show the people of the country do not support him / his policies.



Statue and part of the Houses of Parliament.



The Lion and the Lamppost.



Walking back along the Danube River, we came across these “shoes”. Hungarian Jews were lined up here, told to remove their shoes, and then shot. The river carried their bodies away.

After a rest back at the hotel, we went out for tea. Tonight we had Langosh (think donut dough like flat bread) and paprikas, a spicy stew.

