

PROVIDENCE CHURCH Prayer for the Nations

## Hungary

### General Information

- Population: about 10 million.
- Is situated in the Carpathian Basin and is bordered by Slovakia to the north, Ukraine and Romania to the east, Serbia and Croatia to the south, Slovenia to the southwest and Austria to the west.
- The country's capital and largest city is Budapest.
- The country gained widespread international attention regarding the Revolution of 1956 and the seminal opening of its border with Austria in 1989, which accelerated the collapse of the Eastern Bloc.
- As of the 2011 census 39% of the Hungarians are Catholics, 11.6% are Calvinists, 2.2% are Lutherans. Hungary remained predominantly Catholic until the 16th century, when the Reformation took place and, as a result, first Lutheranism, then soon afterwards Calvinism, became the religion of almost the entire population. In the second half of the 16th century, however, Jesuits led a successful campaign of counterreformation among the Hungarians.
- For centuries Debrecen was known as the "Calvinist Rome", since Catholics and members of other churches were not allowed to settle within the city walls.

### Challenges

- In a major shift from past politics, Hungary's former Communists, now Socialists, want the country's top court to overturn religious legislation that they claim will make it difficult for smaller congregations to be recognized as churches and threatens social programs and religious education.
- Overcoming the impact of 40 years of communism has had on this nation. Pastors speak of a spirit of cynicism as well as mistrust that's pervasive across this country.
- Rise of Catholicism.

### Pray

- The people of Hungary have a long tradition of communism. Pray people will experience a new move of God.
- Pray for the gospel of Christ to be proclaimed and that people would be saved from dead religion.
- Pray for the start and growth of evangelical churches.

### Reference

- <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hungary#Religion>
- <http://www.persecution.org/2013/07/16/hungary-reducing-tax-fraud-or-increasing-religious-restrictions/>