

Training in Hungary FAQs



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Requirements to join the training in Hungary?

FALCOPOLIS welcomes volunteers of all nationalities and backgrounds. The minimum age to join the program is 18, and there is no upper age limit. All volunteers need to have a good level of English (Portuguese is desired but not required).

No formal experience or qualifications are required.

However, all participants must provide a clean criminal background check before volunteering with us.

Why choose the Wildlife Field Assistant Training in Hungary?

Our program offers a unique and practical experience for those interested in wildlife conservation, ecology, or field biology. This program stands out, because unlike classroom-based programs, you will be actively involved in ongoing research projects, focusing on raptors and native wildlife. You will learn how to use state-of-the art GPS tags for wildlife, camera traps, how to ring a bird, and a lot more essential skills in wildlife monitoring. The training will introduce you to the basics of wildlife photography and the practice of ecotourism and immersive education.

The Carpathian Basin (where Hungary is located) is a key migratory route of many birds and one of Europe`s most important areas for avian research. Hungary is home to steppe grasslands, wetlands, forests and diverse wildlife species including the Saker Falcon (*Falco cherrug*), Imperial Eagle (*Aquila heliaca*), the Great Bustard (*Otis tarda*), the European Roller (*Coracias garrulus*), the European Sousek (*Spermophilus citellus*) and many more.

You will have the chance to learn directly from seasoned conservationists and scientists with decades of experience in Central and Eastern-Europe.

This training is also ideal for early-career professionals seeking to build a CV in Wildlife biology, conservation, or ecological consulting. Your work will directly contribute to ongoing conservation projects dealing with habitat restoration and species protection.

Come and work alongside peers from all around the world, forming connections in the global conservation community! Experience the rural life of the Red-Footed Falcon and gain insight into conservation challenges and strategies!

Flights, Travel insurance and VISA Hungary

After we confirmed your application, we strongly advise you to book your flights as early as you can. You should book your Flight to Budapest Airport (<https://www.bud.hu/>). Also very important to have appropriate travel insurance during your time abroad. All of our international volunteers must be appropriately covered during all of their trip dates, including your travel to and from Hungary, as well as any onward travel to Angola. Although we do everything to ensure your trip is safe, unexpected things can happen. Therefore, travel insurance helps you effectively deal with any problems you may encounter during your time with us.

Most citizens of developing countries are free to travel to Hungary for short term stays (less than 90 days).

Regarding the VISA situation please check your country here (<https://konzinfo.mfa.gov.hu/en/short-term-stay#visa-free>).

Project and Training Location Hungary

Our training is going to take place in Jászboldogháza, a village in Jász-Nagykun-Szolnok county, in the Northern Great Plain region of central Hungary. The training is going to take 4 weeks to complete, closing with the final exam at the end of the 4th week. The curriculum involves theory and practice. The topics we cover will be Conservation Theory, Species-Specific Study, Sustainable Tourism, Practical Skills, Angola Specific Topics, Cultural Sensitivity. We will also learn about ringing birds, establish artificial nests, build professional photo hides and many more.

Weather in Hungary

September: Early September is usually still pretty warm, but it will get cooler and cooler towards October. Around this time in Hungary the average temperature is around 17°C with highs of 22°C and lows of 12°C. There are 12 hours of sunshine each day but there's also an increase in cloud coverage, so most days you will be experiencing some degree of cloud cover.

May: This time of year the weather is quite sassy, it can get really hot during the day, but it can also get super chilly. The average daily temperature is around 16°C, which is very pleasant but tends to drop to 11°C at night. At the warmest time of the day, temperatures are known to rise as high as 23°C, which is perfect for some wildlife conservation activities.

The chance of it raining during your stay both in March is likely, so do not forget to pack a waterproof coat and wellies.

Do I need any special skills or experience?

Nope! If you have passion, curiosity, and a love for nature, you're already qualified. We'll teach you everything you need to know.

However, if you are a professional with a university degree, diploma in Biology or related fields, please contact the team at office@falcopolis.org to see if you can apply directly for the Final Exam.

Is there a cost to complete the training in Hungary?

Yes there is a program fee, which covers your accommodation, 3 meals per day, airport pick up, the 4 weeks long training and exam certificate. Please check our pricing for details.

What's a typical day like?

Every day is different! You might be helping monitor nests, creating content for awareness campaigns, and working with local communities. If you would like a more detailed breakout, please click [HERE!](#)

Can I come with friends?

Absolutely! Coming with friends makes it even better and a lot more fun. Just mention it in your application and we'll place you together.

Is this safe (injuries, sickness, dangers (animals), crime in Hungary)?

Absolutely. Safety is our top priority. We provide training, guidance, and on-site support to make sure you feel secure and empowered.

Safety

Hungary is a generally safe and stable country, making it a welcoming destination for international volunteers. However, as with any travel experience, it's important to stay informed and prepared. Below are key aspects of safety to consider during your stay.

Health & Injuries

Hungary has a well-developed healthcare system with access to modern medical facilities. In case of injury or illness, medical help is readily available, especially in urban areas. Volunteers are encouraged to have valid travel or health insurance to cover any unexpected medical needs. It's also advisable to bring any personal medications and be familiar with basic first aid procedures.

Sickness Prevention

Tap water in Hungary is safe to drink, and food hygiene standards are high. Common illnesses are minimal, but standard precautions like regular handwashing and staying hydrated are recommended. For longer stays, a check-up before departure and updates on routine vaccinations are suggested.

Wildlife & Natural Hazards

Hungary does not pose significant risks from dangerous animals. While ticks can be found in grassy or forested areas and may carry Lyme disease or tick-borne encephalitis, these risks are low and can be minimized by using insect repellent and checking for ticks after outdoor activities.

Crime & Personal Safety

Hungary has a relatively low crime rate. Violent crime is rare, especially in rural areas where most volunteer projects are based. However, petty theft, such as pickpocketing, can occur in crowded urban or tourist areas. Keep your belongings secure and stay aware of your surroundings.

Respect and Boundaries

Hungarian society is generally respectful and law-abiding. Unwanted physical or sexual contact is not tolerated, and volunteers should always feel safe and respected in their work and accommodation environments. Any inappropriate behaviour should be reported immediately to the program coordinator, who will take it seriously and act swiftly.

Emergency Services

In case of emergency, Hungary's general emergency number is 112, which connects to ambulance, police, and fire services. Program staff will also provide local emergency contacts and support at all times.

Local currency?

The local currency in Hungary is called Forint (HUF). It's a good idea to carry Hungarian Forints (HUF), including small bills and coins. Some places in villages may only accept cash. But most of the shops accept cards, primarily Visa or Mastercard. Contactless payments are becoming more common, but they're not yet universal in rural areas. It's safest to stock up on cash in advance. ATMs (often labeled as "Bankomat" or "Pénzkiadó automata") are typically available in small towns and some villages, usually near post offices, grocery stores, or local banks. To withdraw money, bring a card with international ATM access, and try to use machines operated by well-known banks like OTP, K&H, or Erste to avoid high fees. While euros may be accepted in some tourist areas, they are rarely used in villages, and it's best to use local currency whenever possible.

What happens after I successfully pass my exam?

You'll always be part of the FALCOPOLIS family! Your knowledge will help you to find conservation jobs around the world and you are welcome to take part in your Volunteer experience in Angola!