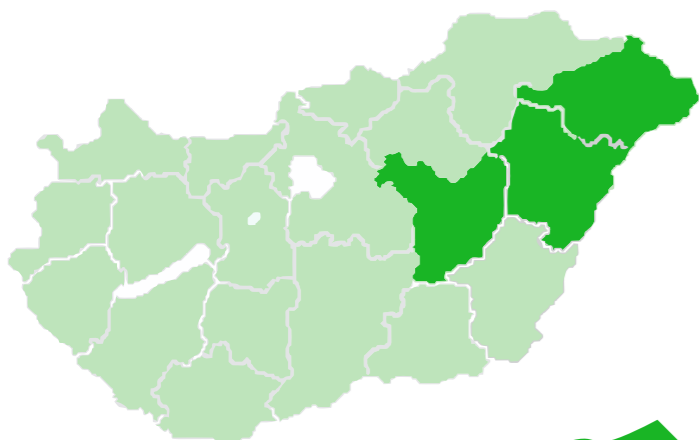


YURA

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Szabolcs-Szatmár-Bereg County

Szabolcs-Szatmár-Bereg is the easternmost county in Hungary. The area is equally rich in natural assets and built heritage and also boasts significant traditions of folk arts and crafts. The county's geographical location is such that in addition to being neighbours with the Hungarian counties of Borsod-Abaúj-Zemplén and Hajdú-Bihar, it also borders three countries: Ukraine, Romania and Slovakia. The county has nearly 600,000 residents and is thus the third largest county in Hungary.

The county seat is Nyíregyháza. Other major towns and cities are: Baktalórántháza, Balkány, Csenger, Demecser, Dombrád, Fehérgyarmat, Ibrány, Kemece, Kisvárd, Mándok, Máriapócs, Mátészalka, Nagyecsed, Nagyhálsz, Nagykálló, Nyírbátor, Nyírlugos, Nyírtelek, Rakamaz, Tiszalök, Tiszavasvári, Újfehértó, Vásárosnamény and Záhony.

The landscape here is very varied: the easternmost part of the Great Plain (Alföld) is found here, a large portion of the Nyírség, the small geographical units of Rétköz and the Szatmári plains, and Bereg plains in the Upper Tisza region, and the western edge of the Ecsedi marshlands. (The major portion of the marshes stretches into Romania and the Ukraine.) The weather here is characteristic of the continental climate and the annual average temperature is between 9-9.5 degrees Centigrade. The winters here are longer and colder than the average on the Great Plain.

The largest river of Szabolcs-Szatmár-Bereg is the Tisza. It enters Hungary from the Ukraine at Tiszbecs and leaves the county at Tiszadobnál. In addition to the Tisza, other significant waterways are the rivers and canals of Szamos, Túr and Kraszna, and the Lónya. Among its still waters the most significant is the Nagyvadas Lake (124 hectares) at Újfehértó, the Királyteleki Lake (23 hectares) at Nyírtelki, and the Bujtos and Sós Lake next to Nyíregyháza.



Hajdú-Bihar County



Hajdú-Bihar is an administrative county in eastern Hungary. It shares borders with the Hungarian counties Szabolcs-Szatmár-Bereg, Borsod-Abaúj-Zemplén, Jász-Nagykun-Szolnok and Békés. The capital of Hajdú-Bihar county is Debrecen. The area of the county does not form a geographical unit; it shares several features with the neighbouring areas: from northeast the sand hills of the Nyírség spread over the county borders. The western part of the county is the famous Hortobágy ("Puszta"), a large flat area of the country. Compared to the average, Hajdú-Bihar has a small number of inhabited places: 19 towns and 62 villages. The total population of the county are 543.800 people. The four largest cities – both by area and by population – are Debrecen, Hajdúböszörmény, Hajdúnánás and Hajdúszoboszló. For a long time these were the only ones with city/town status, the rest were only villages. (We have a new city now, called „Berettyóújfalú”).

Our capital is the second biggest city in Hungary. It's other name is „Calvinist Rome”, because of the reformation and the prestigious Calvinist College, founded in 1538. About 208.000 people live here nowadays. Debrecen has a really impressive cultural life, here began the journalistic carrier of many famous Hungarian people. (Endre Ady, Gyula Krúdy, Árpád Tóth.) Debrecen has a flourishing music scene, a rock school in the city offer training and mentoring to young musicians, and Debrecen is the hometown of the famous rock band, „Tankcsapda”. Classic media in the city include the newspaper Napló, two TV channels, a range of local radio stations and several companies and associations producing media material.

Beside the city and the agriculture, we still have some special nature values here, for example rare plants. The two most important plants are *Iris aphylla* subsp. *hungarica*, and *Pulsatilla flavescens*. Both plants are endemic species. We proudly bring with ourselves in our pocketbook the first plant, on the backs of the „20 forints” coins. There are many Irises in the gardens, but we must not mix them up with each other. The *Pulsatilla flavescens* is an also rare plant, and it is endemic at the sand hills of the Nyírség.

Jász-Nagykun-Szolnok County



Area: 5582km²
The capital of Jász-Nagykun-Szolnok county is Szolnok.
The majority of the population lives in the 18 cities/towns of the county.
Total Population: 399,000 (Szolnok city: 74544)
Density: 71.5/km²

Many museums like János Damjanich, Hungarian Museum of Aviation History, Hamza and many others all over the county. The county is also part of the Danube-Kris-Mures-Tisza (Duna-Körös-Maros-Tisza) euroregion.

Szolnok in sports is of paramount importance among cities. A number of prestigious clubs in the city's reputation is enhanced like Tisza River Rowing Association, Szolnok water polo sport club, Szolnok Aviation Association, Szolnok Oil Basketball Club and so on. Abundance of sports facilities, where both the domestic and world events will be organized.

The species *Polingenia longicauda* hatches in mid-June on the Maros River and the Tisza River. It is called the tiszavirág in Hungarian and tiskvi cvet in Serbian. Both names mean "Tisza flower", and the phenomenon is called Tisza blooming.

The city's economy in recent years has undergone a significant transformation. The once-industrial agricultural economy was transformed into new companies which, as well as many small business was born.

The dominant oil industry and agricultural engineering was relegated to the background. But the food processing, wood processing, paper, chemicals, pharmaceuticals, rail vehicle repair is still present. The first productive investment in the French Le Belier auto parts fabrication Ltd. and the Derula Ltd. wood processing plant began operations in Szolnok. Major companies in the chemical industry Henkel Hungary Ltd., Samsung Electronics Magyar Rt electronics, paper manufacturing. These companies were predecessors of decades past, which the city and the surrounding communities residents were living proof. The hundred-year-sugar factory closure was announced in November 2007.