

Travel advisory for the 124th IEEE Region 8 Committee Meeting Budapest, Hungary, 5-6 April 2025

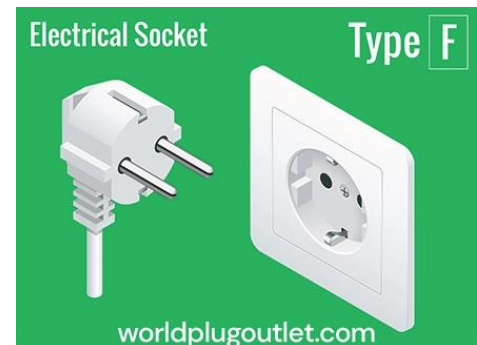
Please check the latest information at the meeting homepage:
[2025-April – Budapest – IEEE Region 8](#)

WELCOME TO BUDAPEST – HOST CITY FOR IEEE REGION 8 COMMITTEE MEETING

Budapest, Hungary's vibrant capital is a city that beautifully merges its rich history with modernity. Situated along the scenic Danube River, Budapest is known for its stunning architecture, cultural heritage, and lively atmosphere. It is the tenth-largest city in the EU by population within city limits and the second largest city on the Danube River.



- Population: Budapest 1,752,286; metropolitan area 3,303,786 (33% of the population of Hungary)
- Currency: Hungarian Forint (HUF); 1 EUR = 413 HUF, US\$1 = 399 HUF.
- Time zone: Central European Summer time zone (CEST = GMT / UCT + 2). Time change from CET/winter time to CEST/summer time starts last Sunday, 30 March 2025.
- Telephone: The Hungary telephone calling prefix is: +36
- Units of measure: The metric system
- Electricity: Electrical sockets (outlets) in Hungary are one of the two European standard electrical socket types: The "Type C" Europlug and the "Type E" and "Type F" Schuko. The standard voltage is 230 V / frequency 50 Hz.



VENUE AND ACCOMMODATION – INTERCONTINENTAL BUDAPEST

The **InterContinental Budapest** will be the main venue for the IEEE Region 8 meeting. Situated right on the banks of the **Danube River**, this luxurious hotel is centrally located and provides spectacular views of the river and the **Buda Castle**. The hotel is within walking distance of many of Budapest's most iconic landmarks.

Address:

InterContinental Budapest
Apáczai Csere János utca 12-14, 1052
Budapest, Hungary
+36 1 327 6378 | +36 20 250 6729

Hotel website: [Hotel website:](#)

www.budapest.intercontinental.com

InterContinental Budapest: [Instagram](#) | [Facebook](#)

[Google Maps](#)



GETTING TO BUDAPEST FROM THE AIRPORT TO THE CITY CENTER

Budapest is served by **Liszt Ferenc International Airport (BUD)**, which is located about 16 km (10 miles) southeast of the city center. There are several ways to get from the airport to downtown Budapest:

1. **RECOMMENDED: Airport shuttle company miniBUD** is the official airport shuttle service provider for Budapest Airport. Convenient, fast and environmentally friendly door-to-door transfer at the best price! In addition to your seat, the transportation of a large and a small piece of hand baggage is also guaranteed for each person. The expected travel time is 30-40 minutes, during which a free Wi-Fi service is available. Tickets can be purchased at the “miniBUD” offices in the baggage pick-up area or outside at arrivals. It is recommended to buy a return transfer, scheduling the return pick-up date and time. Booking the transfer can be also done in advance online (<https://www.minibud.hu/>).



Baggage pick-up area



Arrivals area (outside baggage pick-up)



miniBUD airport shuttle services vehicles outside the airport arrivals area

HOTEL AREA		
PERSON	OW	RETURN
1	26,4 EUR	47 EUR
2	16,2 EUR	26,4 EUR
3	11,8 EUR	18,6 EUR
4	9,6 EUR	14,6 EUR
5	11,8 EUR	20 EUR
6	10,3 EUR	17,2 EUR
7	9,7 EUR	16 EUR
8	8,8 EUR	14,8 EUR

miniBUD prices

2. Public Transport:

- The **100E Airport Shuttle Bus** is a direct connection from the airport to the city center, running every 30 minutes. The ticket costs about 2000 HUF (approximately 5 EUR), and the trip takes around 40-45 minutes.
- Alternatively, you can take **Bus 200E** to the nearest metro station (Kőbánya-Kispest), then transfer to **Metro Line 3** (blue line) for a fast connection to central locations.

3. **Taxi:** Taxis are available at the designated taxi stands outside the airport terminal. A ride to the city center typically costs between 12,000-15,000 HUF (approx. 30-35 EUR) and takes about 30-40 minutes, depending on traffic.

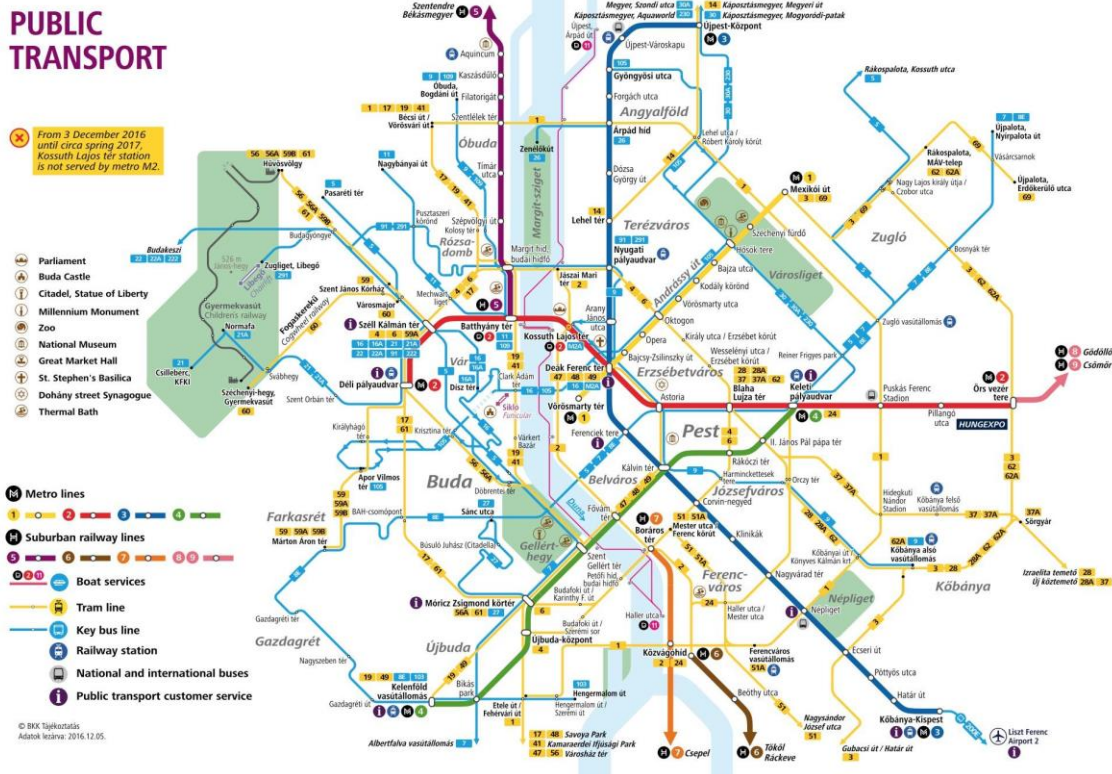
4. Private Shuttle/Hotel Transfers:

Many hotels offer private airport shuttle services, and these can be arranged in advance. Check with your hotel for availability and pricing: <https://www.budapest.intercontinental.com/en/home>

BUDAPEST CITY PUBLIC TRANSPORT

From the **InterContinental Budapest**, guests can easily access the city's extensive public transport network. The **Vigadó tér** bus stop is located directly next to the hotel, where several bus routes serve the surrounding areas. Additionally, the **M1 metro line** (yellow line) has a nearby station at **Vörösmarty tér**, just a short walk away, providing quick access to other parts of the city.

Public transport in Budapest: <https://bkk.hu/en/travel-information/>



Budapest Public Transportation

Most of Budapest's city center and historic districts are suitable for walking. There are pedestrian precincts in downtown Pest and traffic is restricted on Castle Hill, so walking is probably the best way to get around. However, Budapest also has an excellent public transportation system.

Subway (Metro)

Budapest has four subway lines.

- **M1 or Millennium Underground (yellow line):** runs under András Avenue in Pest, between Vörösmarty tér and Mexikói út
- **M2 (red line):** runs east west, between Déli pályaudvar and Örs vezér tere
- **M3 (blue line):** runs north south in Pest, between Újpest-Központ and Kőbánya-Kispest
- **M4 (green line):** runs between Kelenföldi pályaudvar and Keleti pályaudvar

Yellow Streetcar (Tram)

Budapest has a vast system of streetcars. Here are some useful routes:

- **No. 2:** runs along the Pest riverfront connecting Margit hid and Petőfi hid
- **No. 4:** runs on the Grand Boulevard connecting Széll Kálmán tér (formerly Moszkva tér) and Október 23. utca
- **No. 6:** runs also on the Grand Boulevard connecting Széll Kálmán tér and Móricz Zsigmond körtér in Buda
- **No. 19:** runs along the Buda riverfront connecting Batthyány tér and Gellért tér and continues on to Kelenföld
- **No. 49:** runs between Buda and Pest connecting Kelenföldi Pályaudvar in Buda and Deák tér in Pest

Trolley Bus

Trolley bus service is available on 13 routes in Pest only.

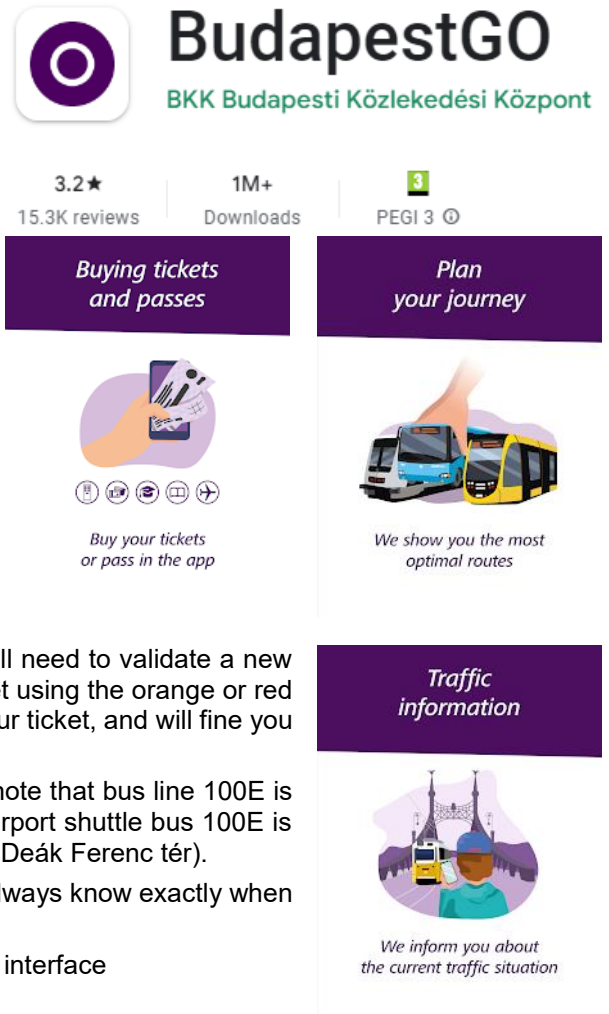
Bus

The majority of people in Budapest using mass transit travel by bus. There are over 200 routes, and express buses with red number signs serve the busiest routes in the city. They travel along the same route as the regular buses with black number signs, but make fewer stops. Buses are also prevalent in the Buda Hills.

USE [BUDAPESTGO](#) PUBLIC TRANSPORT APP IN BUDAPEST: ([Download Now](#))

Ticket and pass purchase, journey planning and traffic information in one easy-to-use application. **Benefits:**

- You can buy Budapest digital single tickets, time-based tickets and 24/72-hour travel cards
- Your ticket on your mobile home screen
- All you need is your phone and a connected mobile network
- This type of ticket can be used on all BKK lines: metro, buses, streetcars, trolley buses, the Cogwheel Railway (service in the Buda hills) and the suburban HÉV lines (only within the city limits)
- Tickets are valid for the, and are available at any subway station. To avoid lines, buy tickets from street stands and newsstands. It is also possible to buy tickets from a ticket vending machine.
- The basic ticket is good for one trip; if you transfer, you will need to validate a new ticket or use a transfer ticket. Be sure to validate your ticket using the orange or red ticket-punching machines as controllers may ask to see your ticket, and will fine you for having an invalid one.
- You can buy your Airport shuttle bus single ticket. Please note that bus line 100E is to be used only with the Airport shuttle bus single ticket. Airport shuttle bus 100E is in operation between Budapest airport and the city centre (Deák Ferenc tér).
- Plan your trip in the city with real-time information so you always know exactly when you'll arrive
- We show you the best route for you in a clear, easy-to-use interface
- Plan with MOL Bubi public bike-sharing-system



BudapestGO
BKK Budapesti Közlekedési Központ

3.2★
15.3K reviews

1M+
Downloads

PEGI 3

Buying tickets and passes

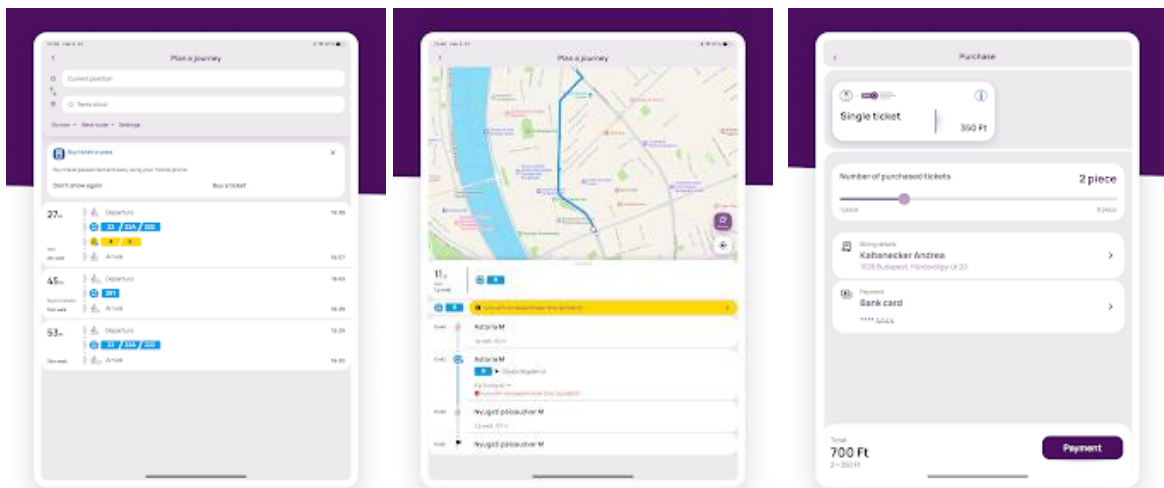
Plan your journey

Traffic information

Buy your tickets or pass in the app

We show you the most optimal routes

We inform you about the current traffic situation



DRESS CODE:

Please note that the dress code for the IEEE Region 8 committee meeting is business casual.

CLIMATE OVERVIEW – WEATHER IN APRIL

April in Budapest is characterized by mild spring weather, with temperatures typically ranging between **10°C to 15°C (50°F to 59°F)**. Days are generally pleasant, but evenings can still be cool, so it is advisable to bring a light jacket or sweater.

What to Pack:

- A light jacket or sweater for cooler evenings.
- Comfortable walking shoes, as Budapest is best explored on foot.
- An umbrella or raincoat, as spring weather can bring occasional showers.

CURRENCY AND PAYMENTS

Currency: The official currency of Hungary is the **Hungarian Forint (HUF)**. While many places accept **credit cards** (Visa, MasterCard, etc.), it is recommended to have **cash** for smaller purchases, especially in markets or more traditional establishments.

Currency Exchange: Currency exchange services are available at the airport, major hotels, and exchange offices throughout the city. Keep in mind that exchange rates at the airport may not be the most favorable. ATMs are widely available, and many international debit/credit cards are accepted.

Tip: Tipping is customary in Hungary, typically around **10-15%** in restaurants if service is not included in the bill.

WALKING TO KEY ATTRACTIONS:

Many of Budapest's major attractions, including **St. Stephen's Basilica**, **Váci Street** (for shopping), and **Fisherman's Bastion**, are within walking distance of the hotel. The **Parliament Building** and **Buda Castle** are also just across the river, accessible by a pleasant walk or a short tram ride.

TAXIS AND RIDE-SHARING:

Taxis are easily available at the hotel, and services like **Bolt** and **Uber** operate in Budapest for convenient rides to various destinations.

Bolt website: <https://bolt.eu/en/cities/budapest/>

Uber website: <https://www.uber.com/hu/en/>



Parliament Building

AIRPORT SHUTTLE COMPANY MINIBUD OTHER SERVICES:

BUDAPEST CARD - Sale of the official city card

HOP ON HOP OFF – The best Budapest sightseeing tours

FAST TRACK - Fast track lane service, passenger security screening without queuing

Budapest Card: The Budapest Card is a city card, with the purchase of which all public transportation in Budapest and certain tourism services can be used free of charge day and night, and discounts are provided in many other places. The Budapest Card is available in 24, 48, 72, 96 and 120 hour versions. All cards contain 30+ free services, in addition to the main benefits.

Budapest Card Plus: In addition to the 30+ services included in the BUDAPEST CARD product range for free, you also get an airport transfer, a cruise on the Danube, admission to Matthias Church, a ride on the Buda Castle Funicular Railway and a chimney cake from Molnár's, all free of charge. In addition, you can see over 100 discount attractions, landmarks, baths and pieces of cultural heritage, as well as experience eventful programs and Hungarian cuisine. Lots of other new discounts are available now, only for holders of the BUDAPEST CARD Plus. You can purchase all cards now, and collect them upon your arrival at the airport, from any of our four sales points. If you purchase a Budapest Card now, we will immediately provide a 15% discount on the price of the transfer, or choose the Budapest Card 72 Plus city card, and your return transfer will be free of charge!

Hop On Hop Off: Budapest city sightseeing, presents the main sights and attractions of the Hungarian capital. The historical background and the myths connected to the sites are recounted from a special perspective, with the help of our audio guide system available in 22 languages, on our open-top or roofed double-decker buses. You can hop on and hop off as many times as you wish, at any of our 43 stops. SPECIAL 72h - extra ticket for 72 hours, with a unique nighttime boat cruise on the river Danube. FULL 48h - extra ticket for 48 hours, with a unique nighttime boat cruise on the river Danube. STANDARD 48h - normal ticket without extras, for 48 hours. You can purchase all cards in advance, and collect them upon your arrival at the airport, from any of the four sales points, where you will also get additional information and a city map.

MUST-SEE ATTRACTIONS

1. Buda Castle & Castle Hill:

A **UNESCO World Heritage Site**, Buda Castle offers sweeping views over the city, with historical museums and galleries, such as the **Hungarian National Gallery** and the **Budapest History Museum**.

2. Hungarian Parliament Building:

This architectural gem is one of the largest parliament buildings in Europe, located along the Danube. Visitors can take guided tours to learn more about Hungary's history and government.

3. Széchenyi Thermal Bath:

Budapest is known for its thermal baths, and Széchenyi is one of the largest and most famous. It offers both indoor and outdoor pools, making it a perfect spot to relax after a day of meetings.

4. Fisherman's Bastion:

For stunning views of the city and the Danube River, head to Fisherman's Bastion. This neo-Romanesque lookout tower offers panoramic vistas, perfect for photos.

5. St. Stephen's Basilica:

The basilica is a neoclassical masterpiece and home to the mummified hand of St. Stephen, Hungary's first king. You can also enjoy great views from the top of the dome.

6. Ruin Pubs:

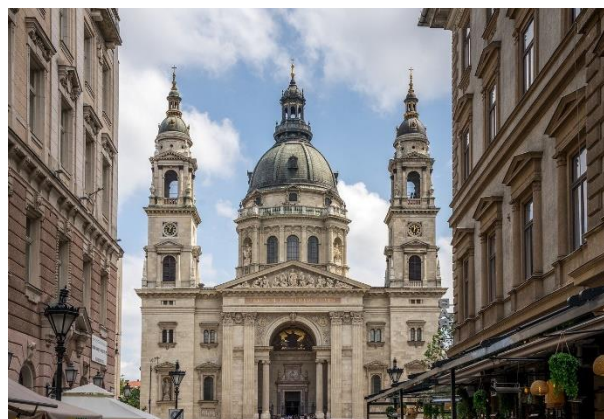
Budapest's **ruin pubs** are a unique experience. These bars are set in abandoned buildings in the Jewish Quarter, offering a quirky atmosphere with eclectic decorations, live music, and a great place to socialize.

7. Heroes' Square and City Park (Városliget):

Heroes' Square is one of Budapest's most iconic landmarks, featuring the Millennium Monument, which honors Hungary's historical leaders. It's located at the entrance to **City Park (Városliget)**, a large green space that also includes the **Széchenyi Thermal Bath**, **Vajdahunyad Castle**, and the **Budapest Zoo and Botanical Garden**. It's a great place to stroll and enjoy Budapest's history and nature.

8. The Great Synagogue (Dohány Street Synagogue):

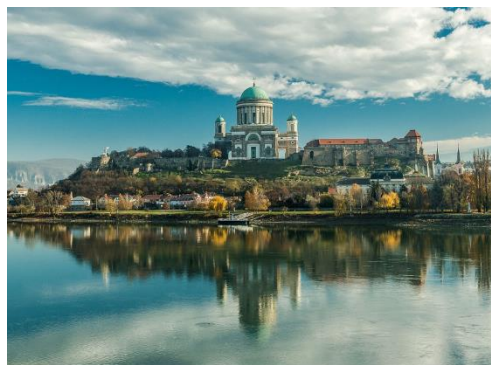
Located in the heart of the Jewish Quarter, the Great Synagogue is the largest in Europe and one of the most significant Jewish buildings in the world. The synagogue complex also includes the **Jewish Museum**, the **Holocaust Memorial**, and a beautiful garden, offering visitors a deeper understanding of Hungary's Jewish heritage.



NEARBY HISTORIC AREAS AND DAY TRIPS

For those with extra time, Budapest is surrounded by charming towns and cities that are rich in history and tradition. These destinations offer a glimpse into Hungary's past and are easily accessible from the city center. Here are a few notable places to visit:

1. **Szentendre:** Located just 20 km north of Budapest, Szentendre is a picturesque town known for its vibrant arts scene and cobbled streets. The town features quaint shops, galleries, and museums, including the **Marzipan Museum** and the **Open-Air Ethnographic Museum**. Szentendre is often referred to as the "artists' village" because of its long history as a haven for painters and craftspeople.
2. **Visegrád:** Situated on a bend of the Danube River, Visegrád is home to the **Visegrád Castle**, which once served as the residence of Hungarian kings. Visitors can explore the well-preserved ruins and enjoy breathtaking views of the Danube River Valley. Visegrád is also a great place for hiking, offering scenic trails and the opportunity to explore the surrounding natural beauty.
3. **Esztergom:** About 50 km from Budapest, Esztergom is one of Hungary's most important religious sites, known for the **Esztergom Basilica**, the largest church in Hungary. The city, located on the banks of the Danube, has a rich history dating back to Roman times and was once the capital of Hungary. The **Esztergom Castle** and surrounding scenic views make it a perfect day-trip.



DINING IN BUDAPEST

Budapest is a gastronomic hub, offering a mix of traditional Hungarian cuisine and international dining options. Here are some must-try dishes:

- **Gulyás (Goulash):** A Hungarian classic made with beef, vegetables, and paprika, often served as a soup or stew.
- **Lángos:** A deep-fried dough topped with sour cream, cheese, or garlic, a popular street food.
- **Kürtőskalács (Chimney Cake):** A sweet pastry cooked on an open fire, often enjoyed with cinnamon and sugar.
- For fine dining, Budapest boasts several Michelin-starred restaurants, while cafes like **New York Café** offer a taste of the city's historical coffeehouse culture.



SHOPPING AND SOUVENIRS

- **Váci Street:** A famous pedestrian shopping street with a wide range of shops, restaurants, and cafes.
- **Great Market Hall:** For local products like Hungarian paprika, wines, and handcrafted goods, the Great Market Hall is a must-visit.
- **Andrássy Avenue:** Known for high-end boutiques and designer stores, this elegant avenue is perfect for luxury shopping.



CONCLUSION

Budapest is a city full of history, culture, and excitement, offering a unique mix of experiences for conference attendees. Whether you're visiting iconic landmarks, enjoying delicious Hungarian food, or simply exploring the city's charming streets, Budapest will leave a lasting impression. We look forward to welcoming you to the **124th IEEE Region 8 Committee meeting in April 2025!**

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