History of Budapest I district

Alice Chauvin
Troy Cheung
Jaime de Rosendo
Location

- Buda and Pest are separated by the river
- Buda was the capital from 1361-1541
- 1st district is located in Buda
- In the 1st district we can find; Buda Castle, Tabán, Gellért Hill, Christina City and Vizi “water” City
General Information

Year Established: 1873

Initially three separate cities: Buda, Obuda & Pest.

Number of inhabitants: 25,175 (2019)

Density: 7,383 hab/km²
General District History

- Settled in the 13th century when King Bela IV built a castle after the Mongol attacks of 1242

- Under King Matthias (1458-90), Buda became one of Europe's most powerful cities

- After a century of Turkish rule, they left after a siege and the Habsburgs moved in & reconstructions began; the area became a government district; the current Baroque appearance was finalized by mid 18th c.

- Today, the Castle District is under heritage protection: no more modern buildings allowed to be built. Traffic is also significantly restricted to protect it's buildings and the cave network underneath
Quarters map of the district

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Quarter</th>
<th>Population</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Víziváros</td>
<td>16,982</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vár</td>
<td>2,518</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Krisztinaváros</td>
<td>23,689</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tabán</td>
<td>753</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gellérthegy</td>
<td>7,197</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Vízivaros

- The water city
- On a slightly sloping area towards the Danube
- During the Roman era, the north-south traffic route led to the Aquincum, a Roman military camp, which is now the Batthyány Square
- After the Turks took Buda, they converted the temples into the Kiraly “King’s” Bath, the only spa still operating in this district.
Krisztinaváros

- Neighbourhood in Central Budapest, west from the Castle Hill
- Named after the Archduchess Maria Christina, who built the buildings of this area
- The central features are; Krisztina tér “square” and the entrance to the Castle Hill tunnel
- There is also a cinema called Tabán Cinema, which belongs to Kristinaváros (despite its name)
Taban

Located in a protected valley of thermal waters at the bottom of Gellert Hill.

Iron Age: Inhabited by the celts then in the 1st Century: Romans

Middle Ages: Turks developed medicinal baths in the area and brought immigrants from the Balkans.

Population increased after the liberation of Hungary from the Turks and many refugees came from surrounding countries.

By the 19th Century, the Tabán became known as a Bohemian quarter of Budapest with many restaurants, bars and bordellos. Its narrow streets on the hillsides echoed cities of the Mediterranean.

In the 1930s, the area was demolished for urban planning in Budapest, only a few old Tabán houses were left in the Naphegy district.
Gellérthegy

The district of Gellérthegy is rich in monuments dominating the city.

The most visible building is the citadel built in 1851.

Located on the southern flank is Troglodyte Church Notre-Dame-des-Hongrois, built in 1926 on the model of the Grotto of Lourdes.

Among the monuments are two imposing statues: the first is the Statue of Liberty which rises at the top of the hill; the second is that of Gérard de Csanád who gave the name to the massif.

Most of the district surrounding the summit, is a wooded park developed in the 1920s. The western sector is a sparse residential complex, mainly made up of villas and rich residences.
Thank you