

Essential Websites for Austro- Hungarian Genealogy

Compiled by Lisa A. Alzo; <http://internet-genealogy.com/austriahungary25.htm>

It used to be that if you had ancestors who came from any of the countries that once encompassed the massive Austro-Hungarian Empire; you would be hard-pressed to find anything useful online. Thankfully, the expansion of databases and information on the Internet has opened up the world to genealogists, and those with Austro-Hungarian roots are no exception. While researchers should understand that many of the traditional methods for obtaining information may still need to be pursued, there are a number of very good websites out there to help make the research process a little less daunting.

This original list was 25 sites. I have edited Ms. Alzo's original list for relevance and broken links. I have also added sites I felt were necessary for a more complete inventory. ~jgm

1. JewishGen

www.jewishgen.org

Along with a variety of databases and other useful links, the site includes ShtetlSeeker, which enables you to search for towns in Central and Eastern Europe, using exact spelling or the Daitch-Mokotoff Soundex system.

Databases include Family Finder, Family Trees, JOWBR, and ShtetlLinks. There is a specific JewishGen Hungarian Database, which provides searchable transcriptions of microfilms indexes, and other lists. Must sign on to become a member; there is no charge.

2. Radix — Genealogical Research in Hungary www.bogardi.com/gen/index.shtml

This website is dedicated to genealogy research in Hungary and it aims at helping family historians find out more about their Hungarian ancestry. Key available resources include: Industry and trade directory of Hungary in 1891, a searchable 1913 gazetteer of Hungary, a listing of most common Hungarian surnames, an online forum.

Must sign on to become a member; no charge to see reference, but must have money on account to download and see actual record. Map and gazetteer information is excellent; not just Jewish. <http://www.radixindex.com> Member side.

3. EastEuropeGenWeb Project

www.rootsweb.com/~easeurgw

The EastEuropeGenWeb Project is an online data repository for queries, family histories and source records, as well as being a resource center to identify other online databases and resources to assist researchers. It is the regional branch of the WorldGenWeb Project. You'll find this site easy to navigate: Alphabetically by country with the project coordinator name listed. You will want to begin your search by exploring the country websites. Each of the hosted countries maintains a system for submitting queries, so you'll want to utilize the country-specific query board, if available.

4. Federation of Eastern European Family History Societies (FEEFHS)

www.feefhs.org

This site should be one of the first stops for anyone researching ancestors from Eastern and Central Europe. The FEEFHS website provides an extensive online "map room", a collection of unique surname databases and other links.

Hungary specific page: <http://www.feefhs.org/links/hungary.html> Includes a link to a dictionary of Hungarian terms.

5. Family History in Hungary by Alex Glendinning

<http://user.itl.net/~glen/FamilyHistoryinHungary.html>

Extensive information on history, locations, and people created by Alex Glendinning. Several sections and family pages, as well.

6. Austro-Hungarian Genealogy

<http://www.felix-game.ca/index.html>

Created by Felix Game, retired genealogist with good information about military service. Links to sites about many different Hungary-related topics.

7. Austro- Hungarian Military

<http://www.austro-hungarian-army.co.uk>

The aim of this site is to document the organizational history of the land forces of the Austro-Hungarian monarchy from just prior to the outbreak of World War 1 until the collapse of the monarchy in 1918. Has extensive information on units, battles, uniforms, and some biographical information; good reference point for general military information.

8. Hungary Genealogy Links

www.genealogylinks.net/europe/hungary/index.html

Numerous links for anything related to Hungarian genealogy, including: Hungary GenWeb created to help researchers find local resources and reference information, Hungary Message Board to share your Hungarian genealogy with other researchers, Hungarian & Slovak Genealogy, Hungarian Settlers in Canada; 1897 Hungarotips Genealogy List database of Hungarian researchers and their research, Hungarian Jewish Genealogy, Hungarian Cemeteries, Census and Military records and other links.

9. Dictionary/Word List Links:

<http://consulting.medios.fi/dictionary>

<http://www.freelang.net/dictionary/hungarian.php> - basic, free downloadable dictionary

10. Steve Morse

www.stevemorse.org

A collection of online forms used to search certain genealogical databases in "One-Step". The most notable is "Searching the Ellis Island Database in One Step", which enables researchers to mine data from the Ellis Island Database. Users can choose "sounds like" search criteria for first and last names, as well as town name and define a number of other more specific parameters. This is especially helpful for locating the often misspelled Eastern European surnames and towns/ villages.

11. Cyndi's List

<http://www.cyndislist.com>

One of the original and essential websites for any genealogy researcher. Has every category imaginable. Look for links within "Eastern Europe".

12. Family Search

<https://www.familysearch.org>

The LDS Church has created a new database search engine for all their records. The Hungarian records include browse-able images for civil registrations 1895-1920, Funeral Notices 1840-1990, and Baptisms 1734-1895 (these are for very limited locales, mostly Heves megye)

13. Family Search Wiki

<https://wiki.familysearch.org/en/Hungary>

[https://wiki.familysearch.org/en/Research in the Austro-Hungarian Empire](https://wiki.familysearch.org/en/Research_in_the_Austro-Hungarian_Empire)

Like Wikipedia – general population contributed information for Hungary and the Austro-Hungarian Empire

14. LinkToYourRoots

<http://linktoyourroots.hamburg.de/ltyr/index.html>

Many immigrants from the Austro-Hungarian Empire departed from Hamburg, Germany. For a long time, the index to these records (1850-1934) has been available on microfilm through the Family History Library. The "Link to Your Roots" database (Hamburg State Archives) allows online searching of the emigration lists (1890-1906). The initial search can

be performed for free, but the results show only minimal details (in text format, not digitized images): Surname, First Name, State of Origin, Marital Status, Date of Birth and Destination. For a fee, based on the number of records ordered and payable by credit card, you can see other details, such as the name of the ship and date of arrival.

15. Bremen Passenger Lists

www.schiffslisten.de/index_en.html

Bremen was another frequent port of departure for immigrants who hailed from countries once part of Austria or Hungary. Unfortunately, with the exception of 2,953 passenger lists for the years 1920-39, all other lists were either lost or destroyed. You can search the database free of charge, and obtain such details as Family Name, First name(s), Sex, Age, Place of Residence, Nationality, Profession and Destination.

16. Slovakia Genealogy Research Strategies

<http://www.iabsi.com/gen/public>

This very useful site provides strategy assistance to English-speaking researchers of immigrants from the regions of present-day Slovak Republic (Slovakia). As Slovakia was a component of pre-1918 Hungary, much information about "old Hungary" is contained and will be useful for any pre-1918 Hungary research.

17. The Czechoslovak Genealogical Society International (CGSI)

www.cgsi.org

The society serves to promote Czechoslovak genealogical research and interest among people with ancestry in the Czechoslovak region, as it was in 1918, including families of Czech, Bohemian, Moravian, Slovak, German, Hungarian, Jewish, Rusyn and Silesian origin.

18. Polish Genealogical Society of America

www.pgsa.org

Those searching Polish ancestors will want to visit this site for numerous finding aids, databases, record indexes and other information related to Polish genealogy.

19. PolishRoots: The Polish Genealogy Source

www.polishroots.com

A very informative Polish genealogical site for tracing your Polish ancestry. Check out the extensive databases, maps, heraldry, cultural and historical information, Polish forums and much more!

20. HalGal

www.halgall.com

This easy-to-navigate website offers information on Halychyna/ Eastern Galicia, a region that is often misunderstood or ignored in North America. This site should be the starting point for anyone researching their ancestral roots in Western Ukraine/Eastern Galicia. Many of the pages will be useful for Polish researchers of Western Galicia, as well.

21. The Bukovina Society of the Americas

www.bukovinasociety.org

A useful site for anyone searching for their Bukovina roots. There's a genealogy and contacts page with contact information about Bukovina genealogy researchers along with their list of ancestral names and locations, a families/villages section with information about Bukovina villages, a culture and customs section including articles about cultural traditions practiced by Bukovina people, a Map Room with Bukovina maps and more!

22. SloveniaGenWeb

www.rootsworld.com/~svnwgw/index.htm

This website provides many links for Slovenian genealogy, including sources of genealogical data, research methods and resources, archives in the FHL and in Slovenia, information on the Slovenian Genealogical Society, a collection of family trees and more.

23. Behind the Name

www.behindthename.com

Users can find the etymology and history of first names on this website including Hungarian, Polish, Slovene, Czech and Slovak, and other Eastern European names. There are also message boards, interactive polls and a name translator, where you can type a first name into the search box and select a language in which to "translate" the name. For example, type in "John" and select Hungarian to get "János".

24. Genealogical Research in Austria

www.usembassy.at/en/embassy/cons/genealog.htm

A helpful page from the US Embassy in Austria. The American Embassy does not maintain any historical or immigration records and it cannot undertake genealogical research in Austria. The website does, however, list resources researchers might be able to consult for desired information.

25. The Carpatho-Rusyn Knowledge Base

www.carpatho-rusyn.org

A useful resource to consult for anyone of Carpatho-Rusyn ancestry. Visitors may also want to check out The Carpatho-Rusyn Society, www.carpathorusynsociety.org, a non-profit organization dedicated to manifesting Carpatho-Rusyn culture in the United States and supporting Rusyn culture in the homeland in East Central Europe.

26. Record Translations

www.bmi.net/jjaso/index.html

This site is an excellent resource for anyone who needs to translate birth, marriage and death records from Hungarian, Latin or Slovak. *Church-based information, but still relevant.*

27. GenealogyLinks.net

www.genealogylinks.net/europe/index.html

This site consists of 3,500 pages of more than 30,000 Genealogy Links that serve as a good portal site for information from Eastern European countries and the links are indexed geographically (e.g. Albania, Austria, Belarus, etc).

28. Austrian Genealogy Research Links

www.distantcousin.com/Links/Ethnic/Austria

Informative site with numerous links for Austrian genealogy, including an Austrian genealogy forum, Austrian mailing lists, phonebooks, a large surname list, Austrian genealogy queries and much more!

29. Austro-Hungarian Empire Resources Handout

Created by Henry Wellisch

http://www.jgsgb.org/pdfs/Wellisch_handout.pdf

Includes information about websites and print references about the Empire as a whole, as well as, details by individual countries and areas.