Hódmezővásárhely can be found in the south-east of Hungary, on the Great Plain, near the River Tisza. It has a population of close to 48 000 people. The name of the town means "beaver field market place."

The town has the second largest administrative area in Hungary and it is a significant educational, economical, cultural and art centre of the South-Plain Region.

Hód and Vásárhely appeared as seperate villages in documents as early as the 13th century.By the middle of 15th century , the small village was formed as a market town.

Part of the country was under Turkish control after 1542. The part between the Danube and the Tisza belonged to the Ottoman Empire, while the part beyond the Tisza, including Hódmezővásárhely belonged to Transylvania. The region was occupied by the Turks for the next 150 years. There are several loan-words from this time. For example: komondor, árpa, sátor, alma, sapka, ökör, kecske.

In 1873 the town obtained independent rights. The current appearance of the city centre was the result of significant construction works carried out at the turn of the 20th century.

In 1896 the city’s population was over 49.000,making it the fourth largest town in the country. Part of the population lived on the farms, only moving back to town during the winter months.

The loss of the Wars prevented the dynamic growth of the town causing loss in every respect. World War II. surged through the town on 8th October 1944. Human loss and damage to buildings was not large but industrial equipments suffered significantly.There are some monumental statues in the town.

At the turn of the 20th century, many potters worked in Vásárhely.The town was viewed as the center of pottery on the Great Plain. Today, these fired clay dishes are appreciated for representing some of the oldest designs and styles.

Hódmezővásárhely is also well-known for its embroidery.They are was made from wool. It was dyed with vegetable paint producing a unique palette of colours. The decorative motifs include plants, tulips,flowers,peacockeyes and birds.

After the great flood in 1879 in Szeged (the neighbour city) they started to build the wall around the town. They built a 17 km long dike and a 3 km long brick wall on the southern part of the town. The brickwall is unique in this area.

Kossuth tér is the main square of the town. With its park-like landscape, it is a popular place for the local to relax.

Located in the southern part of the square, theTown Hall was built in 1892. With a walk-around balcony, its 56 m tall tower offers a beautiful panoramic view of the town.

„Black Eagle” was built in 1905 in Neo-Baroque style. Inside you can find a ball room where parties,weddings, balls, conferences are held for the population.

At present, the city’s population consists of 79% Hungarians, 20% Gypsies and 1% of other peoples (mostly Germans and Slovaks.) Hódmezővásárhely provides different types of support for the minorities. They get support at the school, for example free books, free lunches and holiday opportunities. Around Christmas, an event is organised when children of disadvantaged background, including the minorities, get a present from the town. If they wish to graduate, they receive extra points during the entrance examinations. If they are unemployed, the town may offer them communal work. They gain good experiences which are useful to the community. Examples for this are gypsy musicians and cooks. Béla Czutor was a gypsy musician from Hódmezővásárhely. He and his band played at balls, weddings and several other events in Hungary. Minorities have integrated into the city’s cultural and religious life.

In the city center there are plenty of buildings which were built in the 19th the 20th century and before that. If the walls could talk they would tell fascinating stories.