Although custom-made has come to be regarded as the epitome of luxury, it is in essence, a solid, well established craft: As it was centuries ago, the way to good shoes still begins with the basics, – a tape measure, a pencil and paper. Martin Harai maps a foot with great accuracy and in-depth anatomical knowledge: symmetry of the toes, instep height and size of the ball. Even here, in the earliest stages, one senses the aspirations of this passionate shoemaker: painstaking care makes a great shoe. After meticulous documentation, Master Harai gives free rein to his customer’s creativity.

Combining style, cut, shape and colour, and choosing between impeccable box calf, soft suede or rugged Cardovan under his expert guidance, are among the finest moments in the process and the idea of an individual and distinctive shoe begins to take shape. The steps that follow are steeped in experience, skill and craftsmanship with leather and last. Great family tradition from Budapest, passed down from the father, Julius Harai to his son.

The master of the last: Martin Harai hand-makes fine footwear in the great tradition of Budapest.

The value of good shoes
Made to measure and according to all the rules of the art: hand-made shoes by Hungarian shoe manufacturer Martin Harai
On the second visit to the factory, which has retained its authentic character, free of the gloss and glamour of modern life, the customer experiences the „work in progress” and tries on the flimsy beginnings of the shoe, which, by the third visit, has finally developed into a gleaming masterpiece. It takes about two months and more than 1000 manual steps: cutting, skiving, scouring, fulling, lasting, and stitching, from the first measurements up to the moment when the finished pair of Harais lies in the dark green box bearing the Hungarian Crown of St. Stephen. The operation has hardly changed over the centuries and neither have the shoes themselves. These great classics have stood the test of time until today: Oxford, Derby, Monk, Norwegian, Brogue and of course, the famous Budapester, which is so closely associated with the name of Harai - timelessly beautiful, classical and still highly fashionable. Good shoes have always been what we now refer to as sustainable. They give value to the material, they are built to last and, with a little care and attention, become more and more beautiful as time goes by.

About two months and more than 1000 manual steps are required for a good pair of shoes: Martin Harai and his team.

If your consider your well-being, the supportive and where necessary corrective, and posture-improving effect a good shoe can have, custom-made can only be regarded as highly recommended and sensible. In fact, the absolute opposite of luxury! And yet, when wearing such shoes - custom-made - according to all the rules of the craft, one is overcome with a feeling of true luxury.

Celebrity lasts

Born in Budapest, Julius Harai founded the factory for „Finest Hungarian Shoes” in the equestrian town of Neumünster, Holstein in 1947. Today, his son Martin hand-makes fine footwear for his numerous loyal celebrity clients from the areas of business, politics, media, culture and sport. Although discretion is essential, one famous last is that of a boxing legend: Max Schmeling.

A master from Budapest, Julius Harai founded the factory in Neumünster in 1947.
**Monk**

The Monk is a simple yet stylish shoe - without being superficially fashionable. Derby upper pattern with one or two straps (Monk and Double Monk) and the typical side buckle. Plain or Semi Plain with cap - as shown here. Classical appearance: fine black box calf, also available in Cardovan in Oxblood.

**Full Brogue**

Genuine full brogue with Derby upper pattern, lockstitch seam and ornamentation. A beautiful, distinctive shoe that goes well with a business suit or blazer. Classical appearance: black box calf - polished or a little more rustic in Scotch Grain.

**Semi Brogue**

A good base for good business: fine semi brogues with elegant Oxford cut, typical lockstitch seam and a subtle punched perforation. A wonderful shoe to match a fine business suit. Classical appearance: polished box calf in black or patinated cognac.

**Oxford**

The perfect shoe to match a dark suit: the very elegant Oxford shoe with closed lacing and Oxford cut – shown is the „Straight Tip“ with a straight cap. The Plain Oxford without cap and with thin soles is particularly suitable for festive occasions. Classical presentation: flawless box calf in a polished high-gloss black.

**Derby**

For good appearance: this simple, elegant shoe with balanced proportions blends well with dark, fine cloth. Traditional Derby upper pattern and straight cap. Classical appearance: black polished box calf.

**For the value of good shoes**
The value of good shoes

Norwegian

Time for a sporty yet elegant shoe - the Norwegian. Derby design with distinctive curved upper edges and the characteristic vertical Norwegian seam in the toe. The shoe formerly worn by Norwegian fishermen now stylishly complements corduroy trousers. Classical appearance: smooth box calf or rustic brown Scotch Grain.

Penny Loafer

Casual, comfortable and stylish; the perfect shoe with chinos, polo shirts and sweaters. Light slip-ons with the typical coin slot in the instep strap. Shown here in a robust, welted design with Norwegian seam in the toe. Classical appearance: black box calf, soft brown calf suede.

Plain Oxford

A very elegant shape with a casual look. The Plain Oxford without cap, with closed lacing, slim last and thin sole. Classical appearance: usually black box calf - shown here in beautiful, beige calf suede.

Casual, the value of good shoes

Full Brogue Boots

A stylish shoe for a weekend in the country. A rugged full brogue in a boot design. Its high leg and wide last provide good support and excellent comfort. Perfect with tweed and corduroy. Classical appearance: Scotch Grain in cognac or brown.

Country, the value of good shoes

Budapester

Great Hungarian shoemaking: the original Budapester. A purebred men’s shoe with Derby upper pattern, wing cap and medallion. The shoe has all the typical features: comfortable Budapester last, high toecap and a sophisticated lockstitch seam. Its sporty and rugged elegance goes perfectly with flannel, corduroy or denim. Classical appearance: rustic Scotch Grain in dark brown.
Derby white

Light, elegant, custom-made shoes for doctors.
Open lacing with Derby upper, punched perforation and highly comfortable fit.
Classical appearance: fine, white leather.

Professional

Th e value of good shoes

Servicing all of your shoe needs

Besides classical custom-made shoes, Martin Harai offers a wide range of shoe services: Repairs, restoration or re-dyeing of all kinds of shoes, the insertion of foot support and foot beds as well as orthopaedic adjustments for ready-made shoes.

Golf (I)

A good footing means good shots: classical brogue style golf shoe. Derby upper with duct tongue. The shoe is extremely comfortable and offers the best support in the game with its perfect fit.
Classical appearance: durable leather in black, brown or two-tone with white accents.

Golf (II)

Wonderfully comfortable, even in the clubhouse after 18 holes: an elegant, durable Blucher as a golf shoe. One-piece upper without cap, with Derby lacing and special golf soles.
Classical appearance: robust Scotch Grain in cognac.

Besides beautiful golf shoes, Martin Harai also makes fine leather head-covers for a complete set of clubs.

Golf

The value of good shoes
Enjoy your shoes

With the correct regular care, your custom-made Harai shoes will not only last a lifetime, but they will become even more beautiful with time and patina - cognac-coloured box calf, for example, will take on an unparalleled depth. That is why experts like to turn their shoe care into a little ritual. Martin Harai stocks a range of excellent shoe care products, brushes and wooden boxes.

Shoe Care Products

Fine Shoe Care Crème „LA CORDONNERIE ANGLAISE“
Shines, protects and cares for smooth leather like box calf and Cardovan. Available in various colours that match Harai shoes.

Bees-Wax Polishing Crème „LA CORDONNERIE ANGLAISE“
This excellent crème can be used for a high gloss polish and protects from moisture. Suitable for water polishing.

Coarse Brush
For the removal of dust and dirt before applying crème.

Soft Polishing Brush
Made from finest goats hair, for polishing after applying crème.

A well-tended legend: Harai football boots from the World Cup Year of 1954

Shoe care tips:

• Always use a shoehorn when putting on your shoes.
• After taking your shoes off, stretch them onto a tight-fitting, wooden shoe stretcher, so that any moisture can escape.
• Do not leave your shoes close to heat sources.
• Brush dirty, dusty shoes thoroughly with a coarse brush, if necessary wipe the shoe with a slightly damp cloth.
• Apply a little Harai crème with a clean cloth.

• Let the cream dry for 10 to 15 minutes, and then shine your shoes with a large, soft polishing brush.
• For a real high-gloss, allow bees-wax polishing crème to dry on the shoes, then polish them up with water. It’s a bit tricky, but the old adage, “Practice makes Perfect” applies.
• Give your shoes at least one day’s rest after wearing them.
Made to measure and according to all the rules of the art

Handcrafted shoes in the great tradition of Budapest

Business hours: Monday to Thursday: 8.00 am to 5.30 pm, Friday 8.00 am to 3.30 pm, Saturday and Sunday by appointment only. Arrangements can also be made to take measurements in the comfort of your home.

Experience, skill
and craftsmanship with leather and last