

WINE FESTIVAL GAGAUZ ŞARAP YORTUSU IN GAGAUZIA

DAY 1

Day 1: Arrival day

On arrival at Chisinau International Airport, you will be transferred to your accommodation in Chisinau. In the evening, you will enjoy a Moldovan traditional dinner at a local restaurant in the city.

DAY 2

Day 2: Discovery of Gagauzia

In the morning, you will take a ride to Milestii Mici winery located at a depth of 40-85 m in Milestii Mici village. Measuring about 200 km, all underground streets make up the largest network of caves ever dug by a human being, which appeared after the extraction of limestone deposits. The winery holds an impressive collection of more than 2 million bottles. The "Golden Collection" of Milestii Mici winery, which has over 1,5 million bottles, is the pride of the whole country, as in August, 2005, it was registered in the Guinness World Records as the biggest wine collection in the world. You will feel like a king/ queen here, admiring the beauty of this place, tasting wines in which you will feel the fire of sun and vigor of earth.

You will continue the day by travelling to Karagani winery - a family winery with a specific emphasis on the Gagauz origins of the Cerven family, who owns the company. Located in Vulcanesti, in the southern part of Moldova, this small family enterprise is engaged in grape cultivation and wine production. Karagani wines are produced by original technology from selected grapes of European and national varieties, grown on its own vineyards. On this land, you will discover the tastes of Karagani wines and the specificity of Gagauz cuisine, while tasting Gagauz dishes.

After lunch, you will travel to Comrat where you will enjoy a city tour. Comrat is the capital of the autonomous region of Gagauzia, located in southwest Moldova. This is a very interesting territory since the majority of its habitants are Gagauzians. These are the only representatives of Turkic origin that affiliated with the Eastern Orthodox Church. Gagauzians migrated from Bulgaria together with ethnic Bulgarians and settled in Moldova in 19th century. You will visit the Cathedral of St John the Baptist, Museum of Gagauz Culture, Gagauz Art Gallery, Gagauz National University and Alley of Gagauz Glory and spend the night in Comrat.

HIGHLIGHTS: Milestii Mici winery, Karagani winery,

DAY 3

Day 3: Attend the Wine Festival Gagauz Sarap Yortusu in Gagauzia

In the morning, you will visit Vinuri de Comrat winery, which is the oldest winery of southern Moldova. For over 100 years the winemakers of Comrat are preserving and transmitting from generation to generation the classical traditions of making fresh and naturally elegant wines based on the unique winemaking technology characteristic for the south of Moldova. Vinuri de Comrat is a modern complex processing 4 thousands tones of wine and spirits using closed-loop cycle, including production and processing of grape, production and bottling of dry, semi-sweet, desert, selected and vintage wine, production of wine spirit. Its portfolio lists more than 50 collections of wine, however, it is very famous for the Cahors wine.

Next, you will attend the Wine Festival Gagauz Sarap Yortusu that is the brightest and most colorful event of Gagauzia and takes place in the central square of the city of Comrat. Traditional music and Gagauz songs invite all guests to immerse themselves in the atmosphere of the holiday. You will have a great celebration, performance of folk ensembles, a parade of winemakers and a wine fair that will not leave anyone indifferent. Everyone will have the opportunity to take part in traditional and professional wine tastings.

After the festival, you will be transferred to the hotel in Chisinau.

HIGHLIGHTS: Vinuri de Comrat winery, Wine Festival Gagauz Sarap Yortusu,

DAY 4

Day 4: Departure day

On departure day, you will be transferred from the hotel to Chisinau International Airport. If your flight is in the afternoon, you will have the option to explore Chisinau for a while on your own in the morning and buy some souvenirs.