

ENJOY
MOLDOVA

BY SOLEI TOURISM

MOLDOVA

COUNTRYSIDE TOUR



MOLDOVA COUNTRYSIDE TOUR

Duration: 8 days/7 nights Group size: from 5 to 15 pax
Board: HB Best to travel: April- early October

DAY 1: ARRIVAL IN CHISINAU AND A SIGHTSEEING TOUR (D)

Upon arrival at Chisinau International Airport, meet a guide, transfer to hotel in Chisinau. Introductory information on the way to the hotel

First impressions about the greenest capital in Europe-Chisinau. Sightseeing tour. During this tour you will get acquainted with the city history, will visit the historical part of our capital. You will explore the central area of the capital and make a stop at the following sights:

- The Central Square "Stefan cel Mare" and City Hall.
- The Bell Tower& Lord Nativity Cathedral
- The Triumph Arch
- Great Moldova Ruler Monument "Stefan the Great and Saint" and the park
- The Alley of Romanian Literature Classics
- The Parliament and the Presidency
- The Opera and Ballet Theatre

Welcome dinner at city restaurant and first taste of Moldova cuisine.
Overnight in Chisinau.



DAY 2: MURANO GLASS STUDIO&CRICOVA WINE CELLARS. CURCHI MONASTERY (B/D)

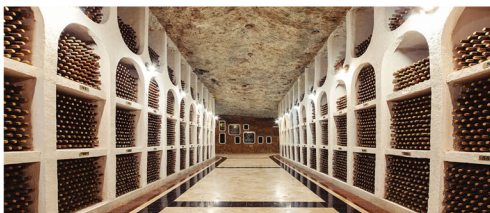
Buffet breakfast at hotel. Check out. Departure to the town of Cricova to learn about the technique of creating figures with Murano Glass and to find yourself in the world's largest wine cellars Cricova.

A **Murano Glass Masterclass** is a unique and immersive experience where the participants not only purchase a beautiful gift made of glass or memorable Moldovan souvenir, but also see how glass products are created and everybody can try oneself as a glass artist.



Later, get into the world's biggest wine cellars **Cricova**.

Take an underground wine tour of Cricova tunnels and drive through the enigmatic streets covering over 60 km in length and bearing the names Cabernet, Feteasca, Aligote, Sauvignon...named after the wines stored there. It's a unique place housing historic wines among which Goering's collection the winery is famous for. It is a place where classic sparkling wines are being matured and have won million hearts of wine lovers. It's also a unique experience to enjoy this breathtaking underground tour with wine streets and galleries.

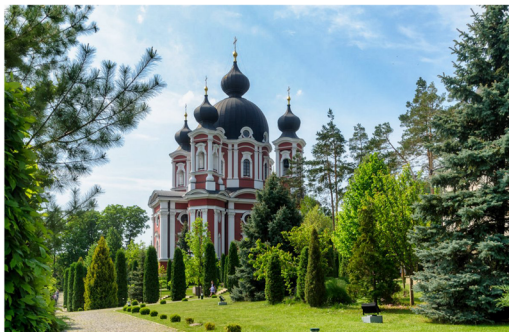


Continue to **Orheiul Vechi (Old Orhei)** natural-cultural reserve for a special experience of countryside accommodation. Optional lunch on the way.

But before reaching the Old Orhei, we'll take you to the majestic **monastic complex Curchi** with a baroque winter church of the 18th cent. "St. Dumitru" and summer church of the 19th cent, and numerous monk cells. The monastery is placed in the mid of forests "Codrii" having very beautiful park to walk around.

Finally, arrive at Old Orhei complex and check in a local guest house in Butuceni or Trebujeni villages. Enjoy countryside meal in a guest house, traditional food by the hosts.

Evening at leisure and overnight in the village surrounded by huge rocky hills.



DAY 3: FULL DAY ORHEIUL VECHI ARCHEOLOGICAL AND CULTURAL COMPLEX. CULINARY EXPERIENCE (B/L)

After delicious countryside breakfast, we invite you to explore the area of Orheiul Vechi offering amazing landscapes and nature.

This day we will dedicate to the open-air museum complex **Orhei Vechi (Old Orhei)** that presents the remains of different civilizations established between Nistru and Prut rivers.

The territory is full of ancient and medieval archeological and historical sites. The complex comprises caves, grottos, churches, Geto-Dacian fortress and hermitages. The open air museum represents a true natural fortress inhabited since ancient times.



Walk into Orthodox Cave Monastery and feel the spirit of those times. Learn the way of living of the locals and visit a typical 19th cent. Moldavian house, now being an ethnography museum.

Another interesting route is the Moldavian village Butuceni where the style and traditions of the Moldavian architecture of the 19th century are preserved and carefully maintained – ornamentally decorated houses, gates, fences, wells with potable water, old cellars and others.

Take a hike in the valley of the river Raut to a nearby village Trebujeni (around two hours) and make a stop at such interesting sights as the ruins of the Tatar baths and the hermitage of the Governor Bosie – the caves with cells and church with 10 preserved inscriptions which are testimonies from different periods of its existence, as well as the natural water spring of Stefan the Great.

Savour lunch in countryside after a hike.

Afternoon at leisure at a local guest house.



Late afternoon, the guests are invited for a culinary class where they'll learn how to shape and cook the Moldovan pie "placinta" with various fillings like cottage cheese, potatoes, cabbage or sweet pastry with apple or cherry or pumpkin depending on the season.

Once the pastry "placinta" is ready, the guests will savor their culinary masterpieces. Enjoy another overnight in countryside where you will probably be woken up by a local rooster.



DAY 4: „ARTA RUSTICA” CARPETS STUDIO. THE LEGENDS OF THE NORTH. (B/L)

After breakfast in countryside, check-out from the boarding house in Orheiul Vechi area and continue to the village Clisova Noua and find yourself in a fantastic place where the Bessarabian carpets have been revived due to a master who carefully preserved the ancestors' carpets' hermitage and has been passing her passion and love for carpets weaving to younger generation.

„Arta Rustica” is about a handicrafts and traditional carpets museum with a rich variety of national articles that reflect the Moldavian way of life, customs and traditions.



The excursion around the studio (settled in an old abandoned and further restored school) is done by the master herself where she reveals the history and the origin of each object she managed to gather throughout Moldova preserving it carefully and with special love.

Her collection includes numerous carpets from Bessarabia, from each corner of Moldova, old-fashioned machines for weaving, looms, old pottery, vestments, and wool and cotton articles. The ladies at work will show you the process of handicraft articles creation. It's an excellent chance to try oneself at some crafts at carpets studio.



Later, drive to the North of Moldova, to Soroca town.

Upon arrival in Soroca town, we invite you for a meal to trace the notes of Moldovan culinary of the Northern region.

After meal, explore Soroca town, the fortress and the monument "The Candle of Gratitude", incl. a drive through the Gypsy Quarter.

The first recorded mention of Soroca fortress dates back to 1499. The fortress had captured many dramatic events including the invasions of the Tatars, Cossacks, Polish King Jan Sobiesky troops, military actions of Bogdan Hmelnytskyi, anti-Ottoman campaign of the Russian Monarch Peter the Great.

Further, we continue to the Gypsy Quarter and see glorious Roma mansions, sometimes like real castles. You'll surely find among these mansions a copy of "Bolshoi Theatre".

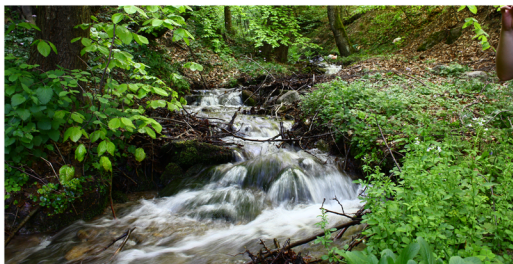
Evening at leisure for personal discoveries in Soroca.

Overnight in Soroca town, local hotel.



DAY 5: SAHARNA MONASTERY AND AN AUTHENTIC CHEESE FARM (B/D)

Breakfast at hotel in Soroca, check out and further explore the enigmatic river Nistru. In the first half of the day, we'll take you to another nature beauty and highlight – picturesque **Saharna area** with an Orthodox monastery, Grimidon Rock, Ghetto-Dacian monument and Saharna river with its 22 waterfalls and cascades.



Tired of climbing and exploring, one can rest at the bottom of a cascade in the shade of high hills and calmness. On the top of the Grimidon rocky hill, one can see a little chapel, where, as the legend says, one may see the footprint of Mother of God who appeared in front of Saint Varfolomei. While visiting Moldova, ones can taste a little bit of France as well. In a small village Horodiste you will find a **small artisan "FROMAGE"** which produces a variety of goat cheese, cow cheese and sheep cheese, some of them aged months long. The owners, Thierry and Tatiana craft French-style artisanal cheeses using fresh, local milk. You're invited to a **tasting session** featuring an array of Thierry and Tatiana's cheeses, paired with homemade wines. It's a real authentic Rural & Culinary Experience-French-inspired cheese infused with local traditions.



Late afternoon, we'll take you to the village Lalova where you'll spend the evening in the guest house "Hanul HANGANU".

Be a part of the "smallest sarmale" cooking **masterclasses** – traditional dish in Moldova and here, in Lalova village, their size can be compared to the size of pumpkin seeds, and their taste is simply phenomenal. Sarmale is a quite simple but at the same time delicate dish to prepare and keeping them small might be a challenging task. Once "sarmale" are ready, you'll savor them at dinner alongside with other local delicacies. Overnight in countryside, Lalova village.



DAY 6: TIPOVA RESERVE AND CANYON AND THE LEGENDS OF THE WINEMAKING (B/L)

Countryside breakfast with a view on the river Nistru. Check out.

In the morning, we'll take you the reserve and cave complex Tipova on the river Nistru that boasts a very rich and picturesque nature.

Tipova Monastery is one of the oldest cave monasteries in the Republic of Moldova. It's spaded in stone on 200 m above the bank of the Nistru River. The monastery consists of 3 chambers and numerous cells. One of the chambers is still used for religious blessings.



We'll also undertake a one-hour hiking (one way) from the cave complex **Tipova** to the water cascades of 10-15 m height through the reserve surrounded by the rocks of the river Nistru and Tipova canyon. Tired of the hike, one can make a stop and admire the surrounding nature, rare tree species and birds' singing. Exhausted of hiking, we'll stop for a break for lunch at local guest house in the village Tipova.

After lunch continue to Orhei district and find yourself in the winery Chateau Vartely. Take a wine tour around the winery **Chateau Vartely** and enjoy tasting their fine wines paired with some snacks.



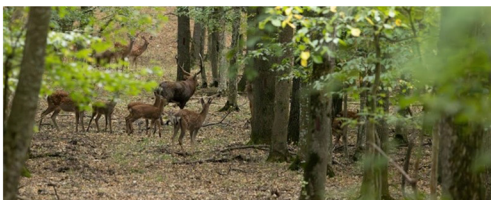
"Chateau Vartely" is a unique Moldovan project for producing wines according to classic European quality standards. This is the first winery in the country of complete cycle – from growing grapes to bottling – modeled on a French chateau. Chateau's vineyards lay over on plains, fact that provides an optimal lightening to vines. The vine is cared all year round and berries are handpicked. Enjoy lights show in a winery cellar that reflects the legend of wine-making tradition in Moldova.

Finally drive to Chisinau for evening at leisure and overnight.

DAY 7: CODRII FORESTS: "HOUSE OF HONEY" AND CAPRIANA MONASTERY (B/L)

In the morning we'll take you to the area of Codrii forests where you're going to discover Codrii reservation and our first stop will be right at the Museum of Nature placed in the heart of the scientific reservation.

The flora of the reserve Codrii counts over 910 species and the fauna gathers over 1400 species, being a model in the preservation of biodiversity. But in the local Nature Museum of the reserve one can admire around 500 exhibits of fauna and flora.



By midday, we invite you to learn about life of bees and their hard labor to please people with a very delicious and healthy product –honey.

You'll find yourself in a private honey house **"Conacul Mierii"** (House of honey) placed in the middle of a field, on a hill surrounded by orchards, away from noisy and loud localities. The owner will tell you about his property, about the life of the bees in vivid details, will demonstrate how hard the bees work and what tactics is needed to collect honey. Undoubtedly, several types of honey will be offered for tasting, as well.

Finally, you'll enjoy lunch right in the guest house **"Conacul Mierii"** where honey products will not be missing, for sure.



In the afternoon, we'll take you to one of the most beautiful Moldovan monasteries Capriana monastery. The monastery is considered to be the oldest one in Moldova and is located in a beautiful green area of nature reserve Codru. The first documented reference of the monastery dates back to 1420 when the church is mentioned as a wooden construction. Great Moldovan Ruler Stefan the Great was the first who built the monastery in stone being suffered significantly during the invasions of the Turks and Tatars.

Closed and dilapidated during the post-war period from 1962, it was only reopened again in 1989, becoming a symbol of national revival.

Late afternoon, return to Chisinau for evening at leisure and overnight in Chisinau.

DAY 8: GOODBYE MOLDOVA (B)

Buffet breakfast at hotel.

Check out and transfer to the airport for the flight back home.

Short: B (breakfast), L (lunch), D (dinner)

TOUR PACKAGE PRICE PER PERSON (EUR):

COUNTRYSIDE TOUR MOLDOVA 2026

4* HOTEL IN CHISINAU AND
COUNTRYSIDE OVERNIGHTS

5 pax

1.151€

10 pax

880€

15 pax

776€

SSUP

202€

SERVICES INCLUDED:

- ✓ Accommodation sharing TWIN/DBL room on BB (3 nights in Chisinau and 4 nights in countryside); SSUP-supplement for SGL room
- ✓ English speaking guide services for the entire itinerary;
- ✓ Comfortable transportation for the entire itinerary;
- ✓ Activities and wine tours: master class with Murano glass; Cricova tour; culinary class baking "placinte"; cheese tour and tasting 4 types of artisan cheese; cooking class traditional "sarmale"; Chateau Vartely winery tour+wine tasting (4 wines); honey tour and tasting 3 types of honey;
- ✓ Entry fees: Old Orhei reserve, carpets studio "Arta Rustica", Tipova monastery, Soroca fortress, Codrui Reserve;
- ✓ Meals: 7 x breakfasts, 4 x lunches, 3 x dinners;
- ✓ Overnights & meals for driver and guide

TOUR RESERVATION AT

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