BIKE AND WINE TOUR

DAY 1

Day 1: Arrival day

Chisinau

On arrival at Chisinau International Airport, you will be transferred to your accommodation in Chisinau. After settling in, you can have a walk through downtown and explore the city centre on your own.

Optional (not included in the price): wine tasting and dinner.

DAY 2

Day 2: Bike ride and wine tasting in the underground cellars of Cricova winery

Chisinau – Cricova – Chisinau

In the morning, you will enjoy a **cycling tour in Chisinau city** which is the main administrative, scientific and cultural centre of Moldova. During the tour, you will see pieces of history and culture of the city such as the Nativity of Christ Cathedral, the Bell Tower, the Arch of Triumph, the Monument of Stephen the Great, the City Hall, etc.

In the afternoon, you will have lunch at a local restaurant in Chisinau.

After lunch, you will cycle from Chisinau to Cricova (~18 km). In Cricova town, you will enjoy a bike ride and wine tasting in the underground cellars of **Cricova winery** - the only wine enterprise that was awarded the highest state prize “The Order of the Republic” and has been declared by law a national cultural heritage. During the excursion at Cricova winery, at a depth of 80 m, you will discover the wonders of this place. Cricova underground galleries are formed by over seventy streets covering an area of nearly 120 km, each bearing Bacchic names: Sauvignon, Cabernet, Cahors, etc. The jewel of the underground treasure is the National Collection, including over 600 types of wine totalling about 1 million bottles. Here you will admire the oldest bottle of wine - "Jewish Easter Wine", dating from 1902. In the evening, you will have a delicious dinner at “Regatul Vinului” restaurant of Cricova winery.

After dinner, you will be transferred to your hotel in Chisinau.

HIGHLIGHTS: Chisinau city, Cricova Underground Wine Galleries,

DAY 3

Day 3: Excursion, graffiti masterclass and lunch at Atu urban winery

Chisinau – Puhoi

The day will begin with a bike ride to the **Medieval Wooden Church Assumption of Virgin Mary** (~5 km), which is the oldest wooden church in the country. It was built of oak trees from Calarasi woods by the freeholders of Hiriseni in 1642 in the courtyard of Hirjauca Monastery. In 2010, the church was dismantled and reassembled in Chisinau. It is the only wooden church in Moldova that keeps its classical medieval Moldovan architecture.

Next, you will be transferred to **Atu urban winery**, where you will enjoy an excursion, graffiti masterclass and lunch.

After lunch, you will cycle from Chisinau to Puhoi village (~25 km) where you will discover **Asconi winery**. It was founded in 1994 and achieved a lot due to modern wine making technologies. Nowadays at Asconi estate European varieties are grown, but special attention is paid to indigenous varieties such as Rara Neagra, Feteasca, etc. One of the features of Asconi winery is that they pick up the grapes mechanically at night when the grapes are still cold. During the excursion, wine tasting and dinner at the winery you will be able to discover the wonders of this place.

You will spend the night at one of the traditional houses of Asconi winery.

HIGHLIGHTS: Medieval Wooden Church Assumption of Virgin Mary, ATU winery, Asconi winery,

DAY 4

Day 4: Discovery of Castel Mimi winery - architectural masterpiece in the world of wine

Puhoi – Bulboaca – Tiraspol

On this day, you will cycle from Puhoi to Bulboaca (~30 km) and enjoy an excursion and lunch at **Castel Mimi winery**. Castel Mimi is currently listed among the most beautiful architectural masterpieces in the world of wine. The story of the castle begins at the end of 1893, when Constantin Mimi, the last governor of Bessarabia, plants the first grape vines on the place that would become legend over the years.

The day will continue with a bike ride from Bulboaca to Tiraspol (~25 km) where you will check in at the hotel and enjoy some free time.

Next, you will visit **Kvint wine and brandy factory** where harmony, refinement and tradition underlie the oldest and most genuine spirits. Here you will be acquainted with the taste of 5-10 years old spirits such as Kvint, Doina, Tiras, Nistru and Surprise.

In the evening, you will have dinner at a local restaurant in Tiraspol.

HIGHLIGHTS: Castel Mimi winery, Kvint wine and brandy Factory,

DAY 5

Day 5: Departure day

Tiraspol – Chisinau

On departure day, you will be transferred from Tiraspol to Chisinau International Airport.

If your flight is in the afternoon, you will have the option to enjoy an excursion with caviar tasting at Aquatir Sturgeon Complex (not included in the price).