NEW YEAR TOUR IN MOLDOVA

DAY 1

Day 1: Arrival day

On arrival at Chisinau International Airport, you will be transferred to the city center where you will visit the Christmas Town / Fair and taste winter pastries and hot tea. Also, Christmas and New Year souvenirs and other entertainment and surprises will be prepared for guests. At the fair, you can find anything: from traditional Christmas toys to clothes, all done by local craftsmen.

After visiting the Christmas Town / Fair you will be transferred to your accommodation in Chisinau.

DAY 2

Day 2: Cricova winery – the pearl of Moldovan wine-making

In the morning, you will set off on a time travel to Orheiul Vechi (Old Orhei) to see a natural amphitheater revealing a territory which was first inhabited 40 000 years ago. The Cultural, Natural and Landscape Reserve Orheiul Vechi includes a series of historical and cultural monuments as well as natural landscapes in the gorge of the Raut River. Ancient fortifications, cave monasteries, monks and hermits – here you can follow the history of this region. The originality of Orheiul Vechi landscape is due to the gorge of the Raut River, dug under the form of a canyon in the limestone layers of the former Sarmatian Sea, about 14 million years ago.

After visiting Orheiul Vechi, you will travel to Butuceni village where you will experience the Moldovan winter during the sledge ride through the village.

After the sledge ride, you will learn how to prepare traditional Moldovan dishes during a culinary masterclass, which will be served at lunch together with other traditional specialties at a local guesthouse.

After lunch, you will enjoy the day at 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 in the tourist train, 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 totaling about 1 million bottles. Here you will admire the oldest bottle of wine - "Jewish Easter Wine", dating from 1902, discover the tastes of Cricova wines.

HIGHLIGHTS: Orheiul Vechi - a 40 thousand years-old natural amphitheater, Butuceni guesthouse, Cricova Underground Wine Galleries,

DAY 3

Day 3: Traditional peasant feast in Palanca village

You will start the day by travelling to Palanca village where you will visit Casa Parinteasca (Parents' House) craft centre including the museum, the peasant house from the 19th century and enjoy traditional peasant dishes, typical for Palanca village served with homemade wine. The lunch will be served along with remarkable jam and tea made from herbs collected from the garden. Also, you will be able to take part in different Christmas and New Year's customs and dances.

After lunch, you will travel to Raciula village where you will discover the "sweet" Casa Mierii (Honey House) guesthouse, where actually, in a small bees kingdom, with a bunch of beehives in the garden, and the house being transformed in a honey museum, the householder will disclose with patience all the secrets of a bee's family. You will see a small family of bees through the glass wall of a hive and taste the natural and delicious honey produced here.

After visiting Casa Mierii, you will discover Château Cojusna (Migdal-P) winery in Cojusna village. Here you will enjoy a tour through the complex, where you will discover the underground streets, the tasting rooms and climb to the roof of the château where you will see the panorama of Cojusna village and the vineyards of the winery. The wines produced in Cojusna can be tasted in two special rooms - one of them has an atmosphere of Medieval Moldovan cellar and it is trimmed with natural tree and stone, the other one has a European classic style.

HIGHLIGHTS: Casa Parinteasca craft centre, Casa Mierii guesthouse, Château Cojusna (Migdal-P) winery,

DAY 4

Day 4: New Year celebration in Lalova village in Moldova

You will spend this day in Lalova village at Hanul lui Hanganu guesthouse, built from natural stone, in national style, with various recreation zones - a real refuge in the peaceful environment of the countryside. From the terraces of the guesthouse, you can enjoy the fabulous beauty of the Dniester River. Hanul lui Hanganu guesthouse is the perfect choice for a quiet and full of emotions stay. Here, you will surely fall in love with some of the most popular dishes in Moldova. During lunch, you will discover the taste of traditional dishes including the smallest "sarmale" (stuffed cabbage or vine leaves) in the country.

After lunch, you will have some free time to enjoy on your own. Here you can practice various types of outdoor activities: fishing, folklore performances, excursions, etc. You will be able to try the traditional sauna and experience a real winter rest.

In the evening, you will enjoy the New Year Program and meet the New Year in a traditional atmosphere.

HIGHLIGHTS: Hanul lui Hanganu guesthouse,

DAY 5

Day 5: After party soup at Hanul lui Hanganu guesthouse

In the morning, you will enjoy some winter activities on your own at Hanul lui Hanganu guesthouse.

At lunch, you will taste the traditional after party chicken soup.

After lunch, you will be transferred to Chisinau where you will have some free time to spend on your own.

DAY 6

Day 6: Departure day

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