



PERSONAL TOUR



BULGARIAN WINE AND WINERY

Bulgaria is very famous with its wines and long traditions in winemaking. With the combination of favorable climate, fertile soil – Bulgarian wines are known all over the world. It is not by coincidence that our country was the world's second-largest exporter of bottled wine in the 70s and 80s. Bulgaria has more than 220 industrial wineries with a total capacity of 710 million liters. Typical Bulgarian red wines sorts are “Mavrud”, “Shiroka melnishka loza”, “Gumza”, “Rubin”, “Pamid”, “Dimyat”.

Examples of the rich millenniums-long traditions in the wine sector are numerous.

During your journey you will be able to taste marvelous Bulgarian wines and relive the ancient past of the Thracians! We know from the classical authors that wherever there are Thracians there is wine - the divine elixir of the gods.

ITINERARY

Day 1. Sofia – Plovdiv (150 km)

The day is devoted to Bulgarian wine. After breakfast we depart to Plovdiv.

Our first stop is Winery Vila Terres. <http://www.villaterres.bg/>

We will partake in the pleasure of tasting 5 varieties of wine and we will have lunch.

Winery Villa Terres was built and put into operation in 2013. The capacity of the winery is 100 tons of grapes processed in strict compliance with internationally recognized techniques and practices for wine production and use of high enological products. Grapes are grown and observed until the right moment to harvest.

During the annual campaign each cluster is selected and processed manually, then the liquid enters the appropriate court for fermentation.

A team of proven professionals handles the wine production process through all stages of fermentation and aging.

Wines produced in Villa Teres are from vineyards located near the villages. While growing the grapes, innovative methods in viticulture are used, which aims to ensure an optimum yield of grape with the best possible quality indicators, as well as retaining traditional techniques in winemaking and traditions of the region.



Our journey continues towards the south and the sunny Thracian valley and it ends in Plovdiv. Accommodation at 4 star hotel in Plovdiv.

Hotel Maritza 4* <http://www.hotelmaritza-bg.net/>

The 4-star Maritza Hotel is situated in the town of Plovdiv on the very bank of Maritza River in close proximity of the International Fair, the historical old Plovdiv and the city shopping center. This location and the splendid conditions of accommodation and business make it the most preferred business hotel in town during the exhibition program performances, as well as for conference events and business meetings on national and international level.



The hotel combines elegant luxury and classic comfort, unique location and impressive interior along with traditionally high level of service.

At the afternoon we are going to Villa Yustina. <http://www.villayustina.com>

Winery "Villa Justina" is located on the outskirts of the Rhodope Collar Ustina village, 26 km away from Plovdiv, a region with a rich wine history.

"Villa Justyna" was founded in late 2006 with the idea of building a small boutique winery, processing 300 tons of grapes own arrays and aging of quality wines in oak barrels. At the time the winery has 250 acres of its own vineyards with Sauvignon Blanc, Chardonnay, Traminer, Aligote, Semillon, Pinot Noir, Merlot and Cabernet Franc.



Overnight in Plovdiv. Dinner at the hotel restaurant.

Day 2. Plovdiv – Brestovica vineyard and – Todoroff vineyard - Plovdiv (120 km)

The city of Plovdiv is a contemporary of Troy and Mycenae, and even more ancient than Rome and Athens. In the old city we will follow in the footsteps of history as we trace the relics of the ancient Thracian city of Eumolpia towards the Ancient

Theatre, the Roman Stadium, a monumental Roman structure able to accommodate 30 000 citizens hungry for spectacle. Then we shall see the varied designs of the Renaissance houses which provide the atmospheric architectural silhouette of Trimontium.

Lunch at the old city.

In the afternoon transfer and a visit to Brestovitsa winery. <http://www.brestovitsawinery.eu/>

BRESTOVITSA WINERY is situated in the south-west of Plovdiv, 17 km. away from the city, in the fruitful Thracian lowlands, a land famous for the making of the divine drink throughout its thousand year old history. The winery was built in the late 30`s of the last century and was designed by French engineers. It is a classic example of French above ground cellar with a total capacity of 4,000,000 liters. The wine-cellar processes excellent hand-picked grapes, which ferment according to the classical technology for high-quality wines.



Strict hygiene procedures and quality control is present at every stage of the production, in order to preserve the distinct flavour of ripe berries which are typical for the region.

We will have the possibility to degust 5 types of wine.

Todoroff winery<http://www.todoroff-hotel.com/>

Degustation and dinner.

Winery TODOROFF is located in Brestovitsa village, Plovdiv region, 15 km from the cultural capital of Bulgaria - Plovdiv. Natural wine products.

The tasting room is located 8 meters underground.

The restaurant has 60 seats, a panoramic terrace overlooking it 40 more seats and a barbecue garden.

Experienced wine animators acquaint the guests with the main methods of tasting, classical approaches to combining food and wine. In front of them there are subtleties in the storage of wine, intriguing secrets of the technology industry and the diversity of varieties and regions.

Transfer to Plovdiv overnight.

Accommodation in Plovdiv - **1 night.**



Day 3. Plovdiv – Bansko – Melnik - Sandanski

Departure in the morning after breakfast

Visit Bansko and lunch

One of the largest winter resorts of Bulgaria is situated 925 meters above the sea level at the foot of the Pirin Mountain – at a distance of 150 km from Sofia. Over the years, Bansko gradually established itself as one of the leading winter ski resorts in the country and the region, which attracts many Bulgarian and foreign tourists.

Very typical for Bansko are the traditional taverns, in which dishes from the region are served. Among the town specialties are: Kapama, Chomlek, Bansko Kebap, Sache, Banski Starets, etc.



Melnik <http://melnik-bg.eu/>

The smallest town in Bulgaria (208 residents), Melnik, is nestled in the south slopes of Pirin, among sand pyramids with queer forms. It is situated in the Sandanski Municipality,

Melnik is declared a natural and architectural reserve, and it attracts thousands of tourists annually.

Two of the most interesting houses, which are architectural monuments of the Bulgarian Renaissance, are the Kordopulova House and the Pashova House.

The Kordopulova House (declared an architecture and construction, art and history monument in is the largest building from the Bulgarian National Renaissance in our country. It was built in 1754 and it was owned by the rich Melnik family Kordopulovi, which were involved in wine producing. The cellars, excavated under and behind the house, with their constant temperature and ventilation, were used for preparing and growing the renowned Melnik wine.



The wine which is produced by the unique Bulgarian brand Wide Melnik Vine has a wonderful quality, scents of ripe cherry, herbs, and in the presence of an oak it develops nuances of tobacco and leather. It is one of the attractions of the town and the region, and it attracts many admirers from the whole world. You can sample it in some of the wineries and cellars in the town and around it. The combination of good wine and wonderful local food attract a lot of tourists.

The Melnik pyramids are situated near the town, and they are declared a natural landmark. Besides the pyramid form, the sand formations have the shape of mushrooms, cones, needles, etc. The height of the pyramids reaches 100 m. They are a unique natural formation which attracts tourists from the whole world.

Damyanitza winery <http://damianitza.bg/>

Damianitza was founded in 1940, just before Bulgaria joined the Second World War and for over half a century produced wine drawing from the exquisite grape that grew in the pristine areas near Bulgaria's Southern border. When it was purchased in 1997, as part of the country's post communist privatization process, the winery underwent a dramatic organizational and equipment overhaul to enable it to bring exclusive wines to domestic and international customers. Damianitza's current bottling capacity is 2 000 000 bottles and it produces above 1 400 000 on average yearly. The winery today is a dynamic modern facility employing advanced vinification techniques.



Giving top priority to quality, Damianitza emphasizes control throughout the entire production process, from incoming materials through manufacturing to marketing, distribution and use. Therefore, the winery invested in a new filling line, labeling machine, precision grape processing equipment, fermentation tanks, barriques and vineyards. Transfer to Sandansky.

Sandanski

1 night in Sandansky - Interhotel Sandanski 4*
<http://interhotelsandanski.bg>

Sandanski is the warmest city in Bulgaria. It is located at an altitude of 240m., and the climate is strongly influenced by the Mediterranean. The average yearly temperature is +14.7 degrees; the winters are mild and warm. The unique microclimate is suitable for lung disease treatment.



Sandanski is a popular balneological and spa center.

Day 4. Sandanski - Rila Monastery - Sofia

In the morning the tour continues to the Rila Monastery.

Rila Monastery is one of the symbols of Bulgaria and is also a popular tourist destination. The monastery lies in the recesses of Rila Mountain, between Rilska and Drushlyavitsa Rivers, at 1147 m above the sea level. It is located about 120 km away from Sofia.

In 1961 Rila Monastery was declared Rila Monastery



National Museum. In 1976 it was declared a National Historical Reserve and in 1983 it was included in the List of World Cultural Heritage of UNESCO.

Lunch and after that transfer to Sofia.

Price includes:

- **3 nights - single room- 2 in Plovdiv 4 * hotels, 1 in Sandanski- 4 * hotel;**
- **3 breakfasts;**
- **4 lunches;**
- **3 dinners;**
- **Guided tour and degustation in 6 winery;**
- **Visit to Rila monastery;**
- **Transport;**
- **Guide.**



THE PRICE DEPENDS ON THE NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS (FOR EXAMPLE GROUPS OF 10, 15, 20 OR MORE PEOPLE) AND THE SEASON. FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT US.