



## One week tour Bulgarian wines

*Delightful journey along the picturesque Black Sea coast and through The Valley of the Roses, Thracian Kings and Bulgarian wines. Enjoy the sheer treasures of Bulgaria – hospitable people, the oil bearing rose, excellent wines, ancient culture and stunning scenery.*



### 1<sup>st</sup> Day Varna



Arrive at Varna Airport. Transfer to the hotel and accommodation. Guided tour of Varna with a visit to the Archaeological Museum - the richest collection in Bulgaria of prehistoric objects, as well as wonderful collections dating back to the Hellenistic and Roman epochs. Among the most noteworthy exhibits indisputably is the Gold treasure, found in the Halkolythic Necropolis/ 4 Millennium BC/ near the



city, which is considered to be the most ancient preserved gold in the world. Guests will see also 14th century gold and silver jewels, which are the only collection in the Balkans. Sightseeing of the Hall with priceless originals of icons dated to the 16-19th C, crosses, icon stands and altars. Some leisure time in the center and see the beautiful Cathedral.

Wine tasting of selected wines, followed by delicious dinner. Overnight in Varna.

### 2<sup>nd</sup> day Varna – Nessebur – Pomorie – Plovdiv



Drive south of Varna towards Nessebar/on UNESCO list/, one of the most ancient and picturesque towns in Europe. Walking tour and see the numerous Byzantine churches, beautiful old houses and the ruins of medieval fortress walls.

Drive to the well-known wine district of Pomorie, one of the biggest producers of white wines and the popular wine brandy. Tour the authentic wine cellar/dating to the early 20C/ of Pomorie winery followed by tasting session of selected Bulgarian wines and brandy.

Departure for Plovdiv, overnight in Plovdiv.



### 3<sup>rd</sup> day Plovdiv

After breakfast sightseeing tour of the Old Plovdiv - walking along the beautiful houses from the Bulgarian Revival period(18<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup>C), the Roman Theatre, the Balabanow House and the St. St. Constantine and Elena church.



In the afternoon drive through the picturesque Rhodopes Mountain and see the second largest in Bulgaria Bachkovo Monastery/1083/, famous for its miraculous icon of Virgin Mary and unique wall-paintings, dated to 11-12C. Overnight in Plovdiv.

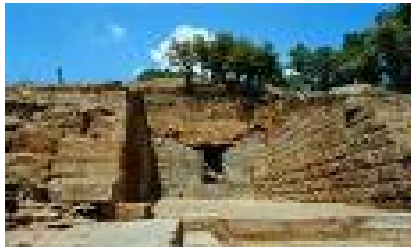
### 4<sup>th</sup> day Plovdiv – Starossel – Kazanluk

Drive to the village of Brestovitsa and a visit to the eminent Todoroff Boutique Wine Cellar, specialised in production of high quality red wines of Mavrud, Merlot and Cabernet Sauvignon grape varieties in boutique series. Wine tasting session.





The tour continues to the village of Starossel, the most complete Thracian cult centre of the Odris Kingdom discovered recently. The outstanding complex with its largest temple mausoleum is the biggest one ever found between the Danube River and the Aegean Sea.  
Arrival and overnight in Kazanluk.



### 5<sup>th</sup> day Kazanluk – Veliko Turnovo



After breakfast sightseeing of the Thracian tomb/4<sup>th</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup> C BC/ an UNESCO sight and a visit to the Ethnographic Complex, where guests get acquainted with the famous Rose oil and its distillation. Tasting of the famous Gulova rakia/rose brandy/ and rose jam.

Depart for Veliko Tarnovo – the capital of Second Bulgarian Kingdom/12<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup> C/. A visit to the Tzarevets Hill with its strong fortress walls and the Baldwin Tower. Time at leisure on the

Samovodska Handicraft Street. Overnight in overnight in Veliko Tarnovo.

*Optimal tour: dinner and enjoy the Sound and Light performance on the Tsarevets Hill, presenting the history of the mediaeval capital of Bulgaria.*



### 6<sup>th</sup> day Veliko Turnovo - Shoumen



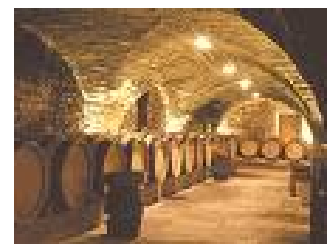
A visit to the Arbanassi village, a unique architectural preserve from the time of Bulgarian National Revival. Sightseeing of the Nativity church/16-17C/ and the splendid Konstantzaliev House.

Drive to the Lyaskovets winery, large vine-growing and wine production complex.



The Lyaskovets high quality table grape and fruity high alcoholic and sweeten alcoholic drinks. Wine tasting and depart for Shoumen. Overnight in Shoumen.

winery is a notable producer of and dessert wines, champagne, wine juice, wine distillate,



### 7<sup>th</sup> day Shoumen - Varna

A visit to the Veliki Preslav – capital of First Bulgarian Kingdom for the period 893 – 971. The city has been the cradle of the Bulgarian culture, known in the medieval history as the Golden Age. Grape growing and winemaking have been well known still in that time, being among the main means of living of local people.



Nowadays Preslav wineries produce high quality white wines, wine brandy and cognac.

A visit to the prominent Vinex Preslav winery and tasting of fine wines and cognac.

Depart for Varna, on the way a visit to the rocky relief of Madara Horseman, included in the UNESCO World Heritage List. Arrival in Varna, farewell dinner and overnight.



### **8<sup>th</sup> day Varna**

Breakfast and transfer to the airport. End of services.



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