

Come and enjoy an extraordinary experience
with our best wines



The Wine Salon of the Czech Republic

The Wine Salon – National Wine Competition of the Czech Republic is the biggest of all the competitions within the ambit of the National Wine Competition and links together all the sub-region nominational competitions. The competition is organised by the National Wine Center under the auspices of the Czech Grape and Wine Producers Association of the Czech Republic. Each year over 2 000 wines participate in these competitions. Only wines produced from grapes grown in the wine regions of the Czech Republic (Morava Wine Region and Čechy Wine Region) are eligible to enter the competitions.

The registered wines are assessed by a specialised independent tasting committee. In the first round the best 400 wines are selected, out of which the best 100 wines are chosen during the second – final – round and these are awarded the Gold medal of the Wine Salon of the Czech Republic in line with the conditions in the competition statute. At the same time the committee selects the best wine overall giving it the title “Champion” and the category

winners and then confers the prize for the best collection of wines. Other wines in the final four hundred are rewarded with the Silver medal of the Wine Salon of the Czech Republic, which is conditional on their having achieved a minimum of 84 points out of a possible 100 in the final round.

The National Wine Center, as the only competent organisation in this country, has also developed a system for further education and evaluation of wine tasters. Awards received from this highest national wine competition are very prestigious, both for the selected wine, and for the winemaker who produced it.

The tasting exhibition of the Wine Salon of the Czech Republic (CR) is located in the historic castle buildings in Valtice in the National Wine Center (NVC) area, renovated with the assistance of the EU and the Ministry of Agriculture.

The reception area of the wine tasting exhibition of the Wine Salon also serves as an information center for Moravian and Bohemian wines. Valtice is the center of viticulture and tourism in the region. It is situated in a beautiful area known as the “pearl of South Moravia” – the Lednice-Valtice area, which is registered in the register of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage UNESCO.

Wines receiving the Gold medal of the Wine Salon of the Czech Republic are displayed throughout the following year at the public tasting exhibition in the cellars of the National Wine Center at the Valtice Castle. Here they are at the disposal of visitors who have the chance of tasting and getting to know the best Moravian and Bohemian wines in this representational environment while simultaneously becoming acquainted with all the essential information about each wine and all the winemakers whose products adorn the Wine Salon showcase. Within the framework of this collection of the one hundred wines with gold medals from the Wine Salon there are short thematic presentations, e.g. the selection of wines with the Silver medal of the Wine Salon of the Czech Republic, young rosé wines, wines with awards from foreign competitions, etc.

The wines on display are all available for purchasing. The sale of presentation cases of bottles, wine literature, tasting glasses and sommeliers’ gadgets are all an essential part of the exhibition as is the “Hall of Fame of Moravian and Bohemian Viticulture”, a presentation of the victorious partners’ competition “Winery of the Year”, organised by the Czech Grape and Wine Producers Association.



Viticulture in the Czech Republic

ČECHY (BOHEMIA)

Wine Region

Wine Sub-Region:

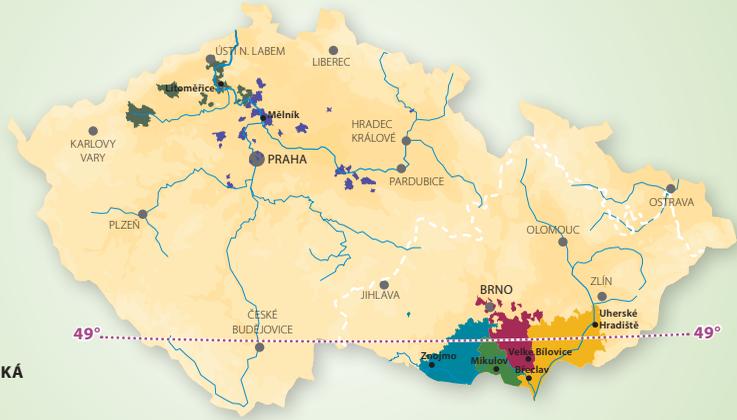
- LITOMĚŘICKÁ
- MĚLNICKÁ

MORAVA (MORAVIA)

Wine Region

Wine Sub-Region:

- ZNOJEMSKÁ
- MIKULOVSKÁ
- VELKOPAVLOVICKÁ
- SLOVÁCKÁ



The grapevine is one of the few plants that can comprehensively and sensitively express the landscapes it came from in its final form – wine. Vineyards in the Czech Republic are situated in the northern extension of the vine in Europe, which is a prerequisite for extremely diverse wines that stand out for their original fruity and spicy tones, rich range of aromatic agents and full harmonious taste. That is why Moravian and Bohemian wine is sought after by lovers of quality and perfectly ripe wines.

There are 2 wine-growing areas in the Czech Republic: Bohemia and Moravia. The Bohemia Wine Region has the Litoměřická and Mělnická Wine Sub-Regions. Moravia includes 4 Sub-Regions: Znojenská, Mikulovská, Velkopavlovická and Slovácká.

Wine in Moravia has had a tradition since the time of the Romans in the 3rd century. Additionally wines from Bohemia have been known and popular since the Middle Ages. Since 1995 when the new Wine Act was passed, wines from Moravia and Bohemia have had a big development of quality and now are some of the best European wines. Moravian and Bohemian wine is characterized by its interesting range of aroma, rich extractive agents and the harmonious combination of full taste and fresh acids of white wine. The red wines have been asserting themselves too in recent years. They are full and strong, soft and velvety, excellent with a fruity smell. Rosé wines are slowly becoming the trend of future as well – because of their beautiful colour as well as for their exceptional young character.

Morava (Moravia) Wine Region



Morava (Moravia) Wine Region has excellent conditions for the formation of white wine with an interesting range of flavour and spiciness that complements the richness of the fertile Moravian soils. The fresh crispy acidity encourages you to taste the wines, each with their own characteristic aroma and flavour. Moravian red wines have always accompanied the country's food and given strength to the winemakers in their hard work. The taste has never missed the earthy character accompanied by the preservation of the fruity red wine's authenticity. The character of red wines has been influenced by modern technology in recent years. It gives the red wine a finer softness.



Morava (Moravia) Wine Region includes 17,257 ha of vineyards, representing 96% of registered vineyards in the country. There are 312 wine villages and 1,126 vineyards, which manage nearly 18,300 wine-growers. The annual temperature average is 12.4 °C, annual rainfall average is 463 mm and annual sunlight average is 1,700 hours according to the 6-year average discovered in the wine breeding station in Velké Pavlovice. Morava (Moravia) Wine Region is located around the 49th parallel, just like the wine region Champagne or the best German wine regions.

Lovely Moravian landscape and their unique natural conditions give a particularity to the wine. It is the main prerequisite for a lasting interest of uniqueness in large quantities.

The climate is transitional with a shift to inland, with occasional incursions of moist Atlantic air and from the inland ice. The growing season is shorter than in Western Europe, but it excels by a higher intensity of heat during the summer months. That has a positive effect on the shortening of vegetation vine phenophases and allows for cultivation of grapes with late maturation, giving high-quality wines. Grape ripening is slower in the Czech lands, therefore more concentrated and more aromatic agents are kept in them.



Znojemska Wine Sub-Region

The westernmost Moravian wine region has full flavour and fresh aromatic white wines thanks to local winemakers' skills as well as ideal natural and climatic conditions. Cold winds from the nearby the Bohemian-Moravian highlands, together with the thermoregulation influence of the rivers Dyje, Jevišovka and Jihlavka, give the wines an unmistakably spicy flavour and fullness.

The grapes ripen slowly thanks to the changing of sunny days and cooler nights, but they keep their aromatic agent and achieve a high quality.

total area: **3,111 ha** | wine villages: **90**
vineyard sites: **215** | growers: **1,116**



Mikulovska Wine Sub-Region

Pálava – the last headland of the Pannonia steppe, limestone Alps, a place with unique atmosphere, steeply rises from the landscape of the bottomland woods of Podyjí. On the slopes of the limestone rocks are massive drifts of loess and calcareous clays, in the southern part are extended sands. The vine draws a wider range of nutrients for aromatic agent production, distinctive spiciness and original mineral taste from the deep loess soils. The Mikulov region gives rise to great wines with a unique character. This is a unique place of the north pannonia lowland for vine cultivation.

total area: **4,884 ha** | wine villages: **30**
vineyard sites: **182** | growers: **2,430**



Velkopavlovicka Wine Sub-Region

This sub-region is the heart of the red wine production of Moravia. But white, especially aromatic varieties, flourish in the local sandy soils as well.

The calcareous clay, marl, sandstone and conglomerates are in the central part of the region. Red varieties dominate here and are planted in soils with a high-magnesium content. Such vineyards stretch from the once main resort area – Hustopeče city, through Starovičky, Velké Pavlovice, Bořetice, Vrbice and Kobylí to the city with the largest vineyard area to the village – Velké Bílovice.

total area: **4,851 ha** | wine villages: **75**
vineyard sites: **321** | growers: **6,758**



Slovacka Wine Sub-Region

Slovácko lies on the border with Slovakia and Austria. The local folk costumes, songs, dances, traditional crafts and customs have managed to conquer the heart of many a visitor – and hand in hand with folklore walks traditional winemaking and great wine.

Slovácka Wine Sub-Region has very diverse natural conditions. You will find vineyards in the valley of the Morava River, in the hilly landscape of the White Carpathian Mountains and on the southern slopes of Chřiby and Ždánice wood. The sub-region also includes the Uherské Hradiště area, where you can find most northern Moravian vineyards.

total area: **4,405 ha** | wine villages: **117**
vineyard sites: **408** | growers: **8,006**

Čechy (Bohemia) Wine Region



The vineyards of Bohemia belong to the most northern vineyards of European viticulture. 72 wine-growing municipalities, 152 vineyard sites and 166 wine-growers can be found here. The region is divided into two Sub-Regions – Mělnická and Litoměřická. A total of 646 hectares of vineyards situated in both of the Sub-Regions of the Čechy Wine Region represent 4% of all registered vineyards in the Czech Republic.

The Mělnická Sub-Region (42 municipalities, 93 wine-growers, 323 ha vineyards) does not include only Mělník and its vicinity, but also smaller vineyards in Prague and around

What can you look forward to?

Perhaps to the renewed medieval vineyard where vine is growing again, a house with a tower in the shape of a wine glass, a walk in places where patient St. Ludmila taught her grandson St. Václav how to grow and produce wine, to vineyards with a small area, but with an extensive varieties collection, the beautiful landscape of Polabí, guarded by the steep cones of the České středohoří mountains, ancient cellars, wine presses, colourful harvesting of grape traditions and especially wine – because what would wine tourism be without tasting?

Kutná Hora, Benátky nad Jizerou, Kralupy nad Vltavou, Beroun and Slaný. Most vineyards lie on soil with a calcic subsoil or gravel-sand alluvium. Soils are lighter, warm and provide excellent conditions for growing white and blue varieties. The wine-growers already knew that in the Middle Ages and concentrated mainly on the cultivation of the variety Pinot noir.

The Litoměřická Sub-Region (30 municipalities, 45 wine-growers, 311 ha of vineyards) stretches to the vicinity of Litoměřice, Most, Roudnice nad Labem, Kadaň, Ústí nad Labem and Louny. The greatest trade rival of Mělník on the Labe River was always Litoměřice. In the Middle Ages after Prague it was the second largest wine-growing town in Bohemia. The majority of vineyards lie on the southern slopes of the České středohoří mountains, on the dark soil of effloresced basalt, which give the wines distinct mineral overtones.



The most commonly grown varieties



One of the reasons why South Moravia and Bohemia have given birth to wines of original taste and renowned diversity is the unusually rich varietal composition. It is possible to find 35 white and 26 red varieties listed in the State Variety Book in the local vineyards, besides this, other varieties can be found.

The background of the wide range of Moravian and Bohemian wines is the combination of natural conditions and the work of human hands. There are more than a thousand wineries that do business in this field, from large companies to small family businesses in the Czech Republic. Another thousands of small private winemakers produce wine for their own consumption. The final style of individual wines is not determined only by terroir, diverse terrain, differing soils and microclimate but also by the winemaker's invention, experience, application of traditional methods and new trends. You can find everything but not insipidness or mediocrity in original Moravian and Bohemian wines.



Grüner Veltliner
Veltlínské zelené

9.1% of the total vineyards area



Müller Thurgau

8.5% of the total vineyards area

Riesling
Ryzlink rýnský

7.3% of the total vineyards area



Welschriesling
Ryzlink vlašský

6.6% of the total vineyards area



Pinot gris
Rulandské šedé

5.4% of the total vineyards area



Sauvignon blanc
Sauvignon

5.3% of the total vineyards area

Chardonnay

5.2% of the total vineyards area



Pinot blanc
Rulandské bílé

4.2% of the total vineyards area



Blafränkisch
Frankovka

6.2% of the total vineyards area



Saint Laurent
Svatovavřínecké

6.1% of the total vineyards area

Zweigeltrebe

4.2% of the total vineyards area



Pinot noir
Rulandské modré

4.0% of the total vineyards area



Still wines classification in the Czech Republic

WINE WITH PROTECTED GEOGRAPHICAL INDICATION (PGI wine)

moravské zemské víno (Moravian Land Wine)

české zemské víno (Bohemian Land Wine)

Wines made exclusively from grapes originated in Morava Wine Region or Čechy Wine Region with min. 14 °NM of sugar content. The production is carried out in the same region, where the grapes have been harvested.

WINE WITH PROTECTED DESIGNATION OF ORIGIN (PDO wine)

Morava (Moravia) Wine Region

Znojemská Wine Sub-Region

Mikulovská Wine Sub-Region

Velkopavlovická Wine Sub-Region

Slovácká Wine Sub-Region

Čechy (Bohemia) Wine Region

Litoměřická Wine Sub-Region

Mělnická Wine Sub-Region

Pursuant to the European and Czech regulations in force, wine is differentiated according to various criteria. The basic principles are division according to the ripeness of the grapes at harvest time and according to the place of origin of the grapes. The ripeness of grapes is measured in degrees on the normalised must-weight scale, where 1 °NM gives the content of natural sugar in kilograms per 100 litres of must.

These PDO wines may be:

Quality wine (*jakostní víno*) – wine made from local grapes with a minimum of 15 °NM. Wine must be produced in the origin wine-growing area of the grapes. It can be marked by the statement:

Varietal (*odrůdové*) – wine made from the grapes or grape must combine at most 3 vine varieties.

Branded (*známkové*) – wine produced by combining grapes, grape must or wines according to a stated formula.

Quality wine with predicate (*jakostní víno s přívlastkem*) – grapes must have all the requirements for the production of quality wines and come from one wine sub-region. No beet or any other sugar can be added to the must. Wines of higher degrees are intended especially for festive occasions or storage.

Kabinet wine (*kabinetní víno*) – light, dry wines is made from grapes of min. 19 °NM of sugar content.

Late harvest (*pozdní sběr*) – quality dry or semi-dry wines made from grapes harvested with min. 21 °NM of sugar content.

Selection of grapes (*výběr z hroznů*) – full extractive wines with a higher alcohol content and sometimes also a higher residual sugar content made from grapes with min. 24 °NM of sugar content.

Selection of berries (*výběr z bobulí*) – full and extractive, semi-sweet or sweet wine is produced from grapes that matured for a long time in the vineyard and reached the sugar content min. 27 °NM.

Ice wine (*ledové víno*) – rare, very sweet wine made by pressing frozen grapes harvested at the temperature of max. -7 °C, the must has to have min. 27 °NM of sugar content. Grapes must not be frosted during pressing, part of the water stays in berries in the form of ice crystals, therefore the pressed must is very concentrated.

Straw wine (*slámové víno*) – very sweet wine made from well ripened grapes that are dried on straw or reed mats or hung up in a well-ventilated space for at least 3 months after harvesting. Part of the water is evaporated from the berries and the juice concentrate extractive substances. The must has to have min. 27 °NM, can be pressed even after 2 months if the sugar content reaches min. 32 °NM.

Selection of bortytised berries (*výběr z cibéb*) – very extractive, sweet and rare wine made from grapes with min. of 32 °NM of sugar content. Berries in these grapes usually turned into raisins thanks to an extremely long period of ripening. Quality wine and Quality wine with predicate must be classified by the Czech Agriculture and Food Inspection Authority.

Wine with original certification/ VOC, V. O. C. (*Vino originální certifikace*)

It is made from grape varieties typical for the region. Wine must have the region character and correspond to the VOC rules. The winemakers association decide upon the allocation of VOC mark.



Tasting programmes of the Wine Salon of the CR

A – Open wine-tasting session – 499 CZK, duration 120 minutes

A unique opportunity to individually sample any of the stocked wines (excluding sparkling wines and special selection wines). There is one bottle open per each kind of wine. Detailed information on each wine is available on the presentation box and in the catalogue. During wine tasting sessions, a sommelier is present to advise visitors on the wines and respective wineries. A free Wine Salon catalogue is included in the ticket price (one copy per person/couple).

The maximum tasting duration is two hours, for every commenced 30 minute period exceeding this time, an additional charge of 100 CZK per person is applied.

10 % DISCOUNT FOR HOLDERS OF VALID TICKETS FOR ANY OF THE SIGHTSEEING TOURS AT THE STATE CASTLE VALTICE. HOLDERS OF VALID WINE SALON TICKETS WILL RECEIVE A 10% DISCOUNT ON TICKETS FOR CASTLE SIGHTSEEING TOURS.

More information on castle sightseeing tours: www.zamek-valtice.cz.

B – Tasting “By the Glass” – 100 CZ per credit

Individual wine tasting with a selection of up to 16 wines using a modern wine dispenser „By The Glass“. The number of wine tastings is determined by the number of credits purchased. Multiple credits (e.g. worth 200 CZK, 300 CZK, etc.) can be purchased. Any unused credits won't be refunded.

Refundable deposit for the chip card: 200 CZK.

C – Supervised wine-tasting sessions

Wine-tasting sessions supervised by a sommelier. Min. group size is 8 persons, max. 45. We recommend to arrange dates in advance. We cannot guarantee a supervised wine tasting session to take place without prior booking. Supervised wine tasting sessions can be conducted in foreign languages (English, German, French, Russian) if arranged in advance, additional charge of 500 CZK per group applies.

Programme C1 – 160 CZK

A selection of five wine samples as chosen by the sommelier (excluding sparkling and naturally sweet wines).

Duration approx. 20–30 minutes.

Programme C2 – 290 CZK

A selection of ten wine samples as chosen by the sommelier.

Duration approx. 40–50 minutes.

All prices include 21 % VAT.

Accepted payment methods: Cash in CZK and EUR, VISA, EC/MC and American Express cards.

Part of the tasting is the lending of tasting glass and neutralizing bread. Tickets for the tasting programmes are for sale at the reception of the wine tasting exhibition the Wine Salon of the CR. Payment: cash in CZK and EUR, payment card VISA, EC/MC and American Express. Gift vouchers for entry to the tasting exhibition can also be purchased in e-shop NVC:

www.vinarskecentrum.cz



Tasting exhibition opening hours

Opening hours of public wine tasting exhibition of the Wine Salon of the CR:

Tuesday–Thursday 9.30–17.00

Friday–Saturday 10.30–18.00

Sunday (June–September) 10.30–17.00

(Open all year except January, when preparing an exhibition of the new year). For opening hours, programmes and prices, please refer to www.salonvin.cz.

We recommend parking on the square in Valtice or in the designated parking lot below the castle, which is about 3 minutes by foot from the Wine Salon of the CR at the castle in Valtice.

Other activities of the National Wine Center

- » Organisation of training courses and seminars for wine professionals and the public
- » The issue of professional wine literature
- » Administration of the national website of wines from the Czech Republic
www.wineofczechrepublic.cz
www.vinazmoravy.cz, www.vinazcech.cz
- » General support and promotion of Moravian and Bohemian wines in collaboration with the Wine Fund of the Czech Republic
- » Organizing of international wine competition GRAND PRIX VINEX

Also recommend for visitors

- » State castle Valtice: www.zamek-valtice.cz
- » Tourist portal of the South Moravian region:
www.jizni-morava.cz
- » Top destinations of South Moravia: www.vyletnicile.cz
- » Official tourist presentation of the Czech Republic:
www.czechtourism.com
- » Website Valtice (accommodation, tourism, etc.):
www.valtice.eu



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NÁRODNÍ VINAŘSKÉ CENTRUM, o.p.s. (NATIONAL WINE CENTER)

Wine-tasting exhibition of the Wine Salon
of the Czech Republic

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