



**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 range 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. Each year, over 2,000 wines are evaluated in this competition. The registered wines are assessed by a specialised independent tasting committee of our best wine tasters. 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 awarded the Silver medal of the Wine Salon of the Czech Republic, which is conditional on their having achieved a minimum of 86 points out of a possible 100 in the final round.

The tasting exhibition of the Wine Salon of the Czech Republic (Salon vín České republiky) is located in the historic castle buildings in Valtice in the National Wine Center (NWC) 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 centre for Moravian and Bohemian wines. Valtice is the centre 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 listed in the register of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage UNESCO.

Awards received from this highest national wine competition are very prestigious, both for the selected wine, and for the winemaker who produced it.

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 at 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.

Beyond the framework of this collection of the one hundred wines with gold medals from the Wine Salon, there are short thematic presentations, e.g. Wines with the Silver Medal of the Wine Salon of the Czech Republic, Summer Presentation of Rosé Wines, Wines with Awards from Foreign Competitions, etc. The wines on display are 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.



TASTING PROGRAMMES OF THE WINE SALON OF THE CR

A – Open wine-tasting session – individual wine tasting, duration 120 minutes

A unique opportunity to individually sample any of the stocked wines (excluding special wines). There is one bottle open for each kind of wine. Detailed information on each wine is available above 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. The maximum tasting duration is two hours, for every 30 minute period started after this time, an additional charge is applied.

B – Tasting from the wine dispenser – tasting within the prepaid credit

Individual wine tasting with a selection of up to 16 wines using a modern wine dispenser "By the Glass" which can be accessed via a chip card. The number of wine tastings is determined by the prices of the wine samples and the number of credits purchased. Any unused credits will not be refunded. There is refundable deposit for the chip card.

C – Supervised wine-tasting sessions for groups (on request, from 8 people)

Wine-tasting sessions supervised by a sommelier. Min. group size is 8 persons, max. 45. The date must be arranged 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) if arranged in advance, however an additional fee, applies.

Programme C1 – Guided tasting of 5 wines, duration 20–30 minutes

Supervised wine tasting of five wines as chosen by the sommelier

Programme C2 – Guided tasting of 10 wines, duration 40–50 minutes

Supervised wine tasting of ten wines as chosen by the sommelier.

Tastings include the lending of a tasting glass as well as bread and water for cleansing the palate. 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. Tickets and gift vouchers for entry to the tasting exhibition can also be purchased via the e-shop NWC at www.vinarskecentrum.cz.

**Opening hours for the Wine Salon of the CR
and prices of tasting programmes
at www.salonvin.cz**



Open all year except January, when preparations are made for the exhibition for the new year.

We recommend parking in 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.



VITICULTURE IN THE CZECH REPUBLIC

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 at the northern limit of vine-growing in Europe, which is a prerequisite for extremely diverse wines that stand out for their original fruity and spicy tones, rich range

ČECHY (BOHEMIA)

Wine Region

Wine Sub-region:

Litoměřická

Mělnická

MORAVA (MORAVIA)

Wine Region

Wine Sub-region:

Znojemská

Mikulovská

Velkopavlovická

Slovácká



of expressive aromas as well as harmonious and full-flavoured taste. That is why Moravian and Bohemian wine is sought after by lovers of quality wines with distinction.

There are 2 wine regions in the Czech Republic: Čechy (Bohemia in English) and Morava (Moravia in English). The Bohemia Wine Region has the Litoměřická and Mělnická Wine Sub-regions. The Moravia Wine Region includes 4 Sub-regions: Znojemská, Mikulovská, Velkopavlovická and Slovácká. Together, they cover 16,945 ha of registered vineyards.

Grape-growing and winemaking were widespread in our countries during the Slavic settlement during the Great Moravian Empire (9th-10th century AD). However, it was the first Celts may have been the first to produce wine in our territory. 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 significant improvement in quality and now are some of the best in Europe and the world. Moravian and Bohemian white wine is characterised by its fascinating range of aromas and a taste that harmoniously combines fullness and freshness. The red wines have been asserting themselves too in recent years. They are full-flavoured yet soft and silky with intense fruitiness. Rosé wines are slowly becoming the trend of the future as well, because of their beautiful colour as well as for their exceptionally youthful character.



MORAVA (MORAVIA) WINE REGION

Morava (Moravia) Wine Region has excellent conditions for the formation of white wine with an interesting range of flavours and spiciness that reflects the richness of the fertile Moravian soils. The fresh, crisp 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. Our authentic red wines have always had an earthy edge to their taste that complements the backbone of fruitiness. The character of red wines has been improved through wise use of modern technology that gives our reds even greater elegance and sophistication.

Moravia Wine Region includes 16,241 ha of vineyards, representing 96 % of registered vineyards in the country. There are 310 wine communes and 1,148 vineyards, which are managed by 12,179 vine-growers. According to the measurements of the Czech Hydro-meteorological Institute (2000–2020) the average annual temperature here reaches 10.35 °C, the average annual precipitation is 568 mm and the approximate annual sunshine duration is 1,944 hours.

Moravia Wine Region is located around the 49th parallel, just like Champagne and the best German wine regions.



The beautiful South Moravian landscape, its unique natural conditions and architecture are also an attraction and a popular destination for those interested in wine tourism.

The climate is very slightly maritime, but is mainly continental, with occasional incursions of moist air from the Atlantic Ocean and from areas of inland ice. The growing season is shorter than in Western Europe, but enjoys warmer temperatures during the summer months. This has the positive effect of shortening the length of the vegetative stage of vine growth so that there is enough time to mature even late-ripening varieties that result in wines of outstanding quality. Grape ripening is slower in the Czech lands, therefore more concentrated and more lifted aromas are retained in them.



ZNOJEMSKÁ WINE SUB-REGION

White wines from this westernmost region in Moravia are intensely aromatic and full of flavour and freshness thanks to the ideal natural and climatic conditions as well as the skill of the local winemakers. Cold winds from the nearby the Bohemian-Moravian Highlands, together with the moderating influence of the Dyje, Jevišovka and Jihlavka rivers on the local climates, give the wines an unmistakably spicy flavour and fullness.

The grapes ripen slowly thanks to the alternating of sunny days with much cooler nights, but they keep their aromatic intensity and reach a high degree of quality.

Total Area: **2 953 ha** | Wine Communes: **90**
Vineyard Sites: **219** | Growers: **722**



MIKULOVSKÁ WINE SUB-REGION

Pálava – the last limestone headland of the Pannonian steppe before the Alps - rises steeply from the Podyjí river basin and gives the local landscape an absolutely unique atmosphere. On the slopes of the limestone rocks are massive drifts of loess and calcareous clays, in the southern part are extended sands. The fact that the vine can draw nutrients from a wider variety of loess soils than in most vineyards means that the resulting wines have a distinctive spiciness and originality. The Mikulov region gives rise to great wines with an truly distinctive 'sense of place'. This is a unique place in the north Pannonian lowland for vine cultivation.

Total Area: **4 827 ha** | Wine Communes: **30**
Vineyard Sites: **186** | Growers: **1 631**



VELKOPAVLOVICKÁ WINE SUB-REGION

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

The calcareous clay, marl, sandstone and conglomerates are found 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 connected to the village – Velké Bílovice.

Total Area: **4 468 ha** | Wine Communes: **71**
Vineyard Sites: **323** | Growers: **4 703**



SLOVÁCKÁ 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 go hand-in-hand with folklore walks, traditional winemaking and great wine.

The Slovácká 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 Highlands. The sub-region also includes the Uherské Hradiště area, where you can find most northern Moravian vineyards.

Total Area: **3 992 ha** | Wine Communes: **119**
Vineyard Sites: **420** | Growers: **5 076**

ČECHY (BOHEMIA) WINE REGION



The vineyards of the Čechy (Bohemia) Wine Region belong to the most northern vineyards in European viticulture. 85 wine communes, 185 vineyard sites and 183 vine-growers can be found here. The region is divided into two Sub-regions – Mělnická and Litoměřická. A total of 680 hectares of vineyards situated in both of the Sub-regions of the Bohemia Wine Region represent 4% of all registered vineyards in the Czech Republic.

The Mělnická Sub-region (50 communes, 94 vine-growers, 358 ha vineyards) not only includes Mělník and its vicinity, but also smaller vineyards in Prague and around Kutná Hora, Benátky nad Jizerou, Kralupy nad Vltavou, Beroun and Slaný. Most vineyards lie on soil with a calcareous subsoil or gravel-sand alluvium. Soils are lighter, warm and provide excellent conditions for growing white and red grape varieties. The vine-growers in the Middle Ages knew that already and concentrated their cultivation efforts on the Pinot Noir variety.

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 Central Bohemian Highlands, ancient cellars, wine presses, colourful harvesting of grape traditions and especially wine – because what would wine tourism be without tasting?

The Litoměřická Sub-region (35 communes, 47 vine-growers, 322 ha of vineyards) stretches to the vicinity of Litoměřice, Most, Roudnice nad Labem, Kadaň, Ústí nad Labem and Louny. The greatest trade rival to Mělník on the Labe River was always Litoměřice. In the Middle Ages, it was the second largest vine-growing commune in Bohemia after Prague. The majority of vineyards lie on the southern slopes of the České středohorí mountains (Central Bohemian Highlands in English), on the dark soil of weathered basalt, which give the wines distinctive mineral overtones.

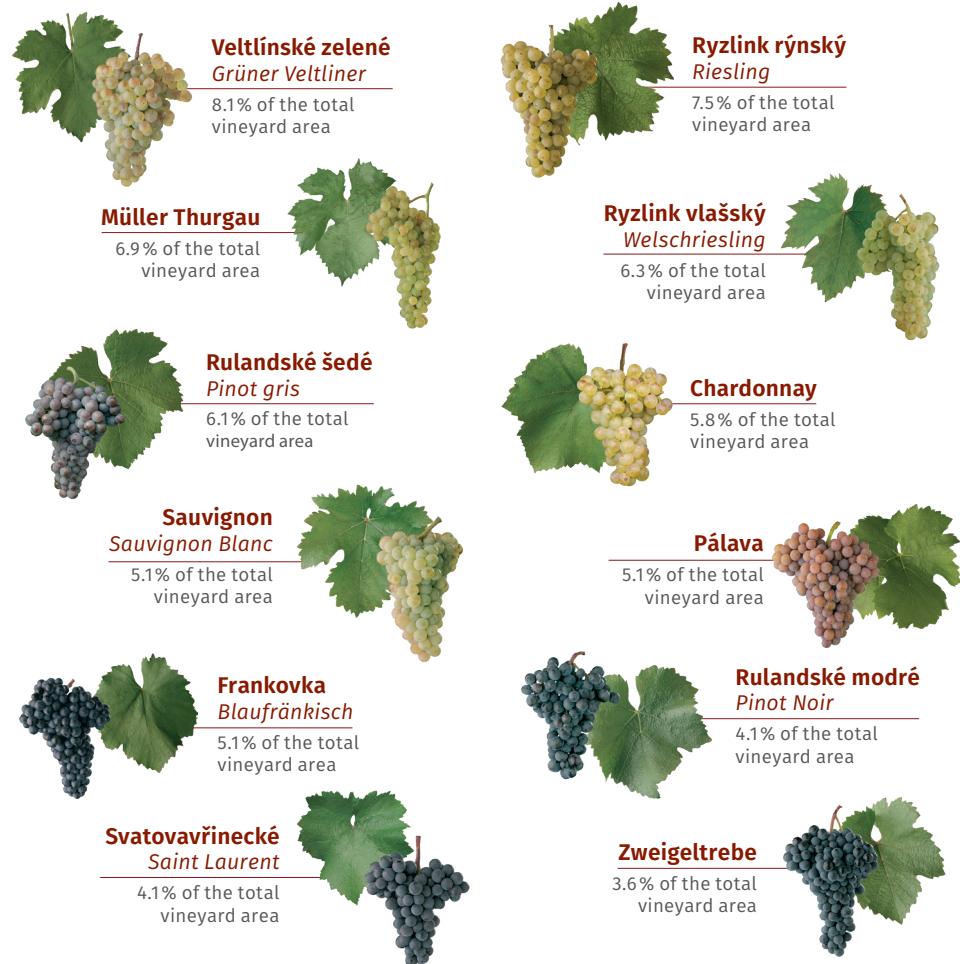




THE MOST COMMONLY GROWN VARIETIES

One of the reasons why South Moravia and Bohemia have given birth to wines of such original taste and renowned diversity is our unusually rich varietal composition. It is possible to find mainly 44 white and 32 red varieties listed in the National Register of Plant Varieties in the local vineyards, as well as a host of other varieties listed in other EU member states.

The reason for this wide range of Moravian and Bohemian wines is also 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. Thousands more small private winemakers produce wine for their own consumption. The final style of individual wines is not only determined by terroir, diverse terrain, differing soils and microclimate but also by the winemakers' inventiveness, experience, application of traditional methods and new trends. You can find everything but insipidness and mediocrity in original Moravian and Bohemian wines.





STILL WINES CLASSIFICATION IN THE CZECH REPUBLIC

WINE WITH A PROTECTED GEOGRAPHICAL INDICATION (PGI wine)

moravské zemské víno (Moravian Land Wine)

české zemské víno (Bohemian Land Wine)

Wines made exclusively from grapes originating from the Moravia Wine Region or the Bohemia Wine Region with a min. of 14 °NM of sugar content. The production is carried out in the same region as where the grapes were harvested from.

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

These PDO wines may be:

Jakostní víno (Quality Wine) – wine made from local grapes with a minimum of 15 °NM. Wine must be produced in the same area as where the grapes were grown. It can be qualified with these statements:

Jakostní víno odrůdové (Quality Varietal Wine) – wine made from grapes, must or grape juice from a single grape variety or up to a maximum of 3 grape varieties combined.

According to the current European and Czech regulations, 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.

Jakostní víno známkové (Quality Branded Wine) – wine produced by combining grapes, must, grape juice or wines according to a stated formula.

Jakostní víno s přívlastkem... (Quality Predicated Wine) – grapes must have all the requirements for the production of quality wines and come from one wine sub-region. No beet sugar or any other sugar can be added to the must. Wines with higher levels of ripeness and/or sweetness are intended especially for festive occasions or for cellaring.

...kabinetní víno (Kabinet Wine) – light, dry wines made from grapes with a min. of 19 °NM of sugar content.

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

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

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

...ledové víno (Ice Wine) – rare, very sweet wine made by pressing frozen grapes harvested at a temperature of max. -7 °C. The must has to have a min. of 27 °NM of sugar content. The grapes must stay frozen during pressing. Part of the water in the berries stays as ice crystals, which are then separated after pressing to create a highly concentrated must.

...slámové víno (Straw Wine) – 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. The evaporation of water from the berries creates an even richer style. The picked grapes must have a min. sugar concentration of 27 °NM, while at pressing, which may take place 2 months later or more, the dried grapes must have 32 °NM.

...výběr z cibélů (Selection of Bortytised Berries) – very viscous, sweet and rare wine made from grapes with min. sugar content of 32 °NM. The berries in these grapes usually turned into raisins thanks to an extremely long period of ripening.

Quality Wine and Quality Predicated Wine must be classified by the Czech Agriculture and Food Inspection Authority.

Víno originální certifikace / VOC / V. O. C. (Wine of Certified Origin)

It is made from grape varieties typical of the region. The wine must express regional character and be in accordance with the VOC rules. The winemakers association decides which wines will be given the VOC certification.



Other activities of the National Wine Center

- » Organisation of training courses and seminars for wine professionals and the public
- » The publication of professional wine literature
- » General support and promotion of Moravian and Bohemian wines in collaboration with the Wine Fund of the Czech Republic
- » Organising the GRAND PRIX VINEX international wine competition
- » Publishing and distribution of information and promotional materials about our wine and winemaking
- » Creation of the 'Land of Wine' brochures and maps promoting wine tourism in the Czech Republic
- » Presentation of our wine and wine tourism at tourism trade fairs and similar events in the Czech Republic and abroad
- » Operation of the Elwis system and service for organisers of wine competitions, and others

Also recommend for visitors

- » Valtice State Castle: www.zamek-valtice.cz
- » Town of Valtice (accommodation, tourism, etc.): www.valtice.eu
- » National museum of agriculture - wine exposition in Valtice: www.nzm.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
- » Tourist portal of the Czech Republic: www.kudyznudy.cz
- » TOP wine destinations and online guide: www.topvinarskycil.cz
- » Wine trails - Cycling through the region of monuments and wine: www.vinarske.stezky.cz
- » National website of wines from the Czech Republic: www.wineofczechrepublic.cz



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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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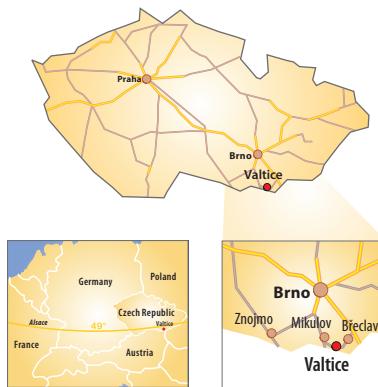
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