



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 Competitions and links together all the sub-region nominational competitions. The competition is organised by the National Wine Centre under the auspices of the Winemakers' Association of the Czech Republic. Each year around 1500 wines participate in these competitions. Only wines produced from grapes grown in the wine regions of Czech Republic (the Moravian wine region and the Bohemian 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 200 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 statutes. 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 two hundred are rewarded with silver medals from the Wine Salon of the Czech Republic, which is conditional on their having achieved a minimum of 83 points out of a possible 100 in the final round.

The wines in this contest are chosen by our very best tasters who have passed international exams in line with the norms of ČSN ISO. The National Wine Centre, as the only competent organisation in this country, has also developed a system for further education

and evaluation of wine tasters. Awards in this, the highest national wine competition are very prestigious both for any given wine and for the winemaker who produced it.

Wines receiving a gold medal at 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 Centre in the chateau of Valtice. Here they are at the disposal of visitors who have the chance of tasting and getting to know the best Moravian and Czech 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

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.

thematic presentations, e.g. the selection of wines with silver medals from the Wine Salon, 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 Czech Viticulture", a presentation of the victorious partners' competition "Winery of the Year", organised by the Association Of Winemakers of the Czech Republic.






## Viticulture in the Czech Republic

The wine-growing region

**BOHEMIA**

Wine sub-region:


 **LITOMĚŘICKÁ**

 **MĚLNICKÁ**

The wine-growing region

**MORAVIA**

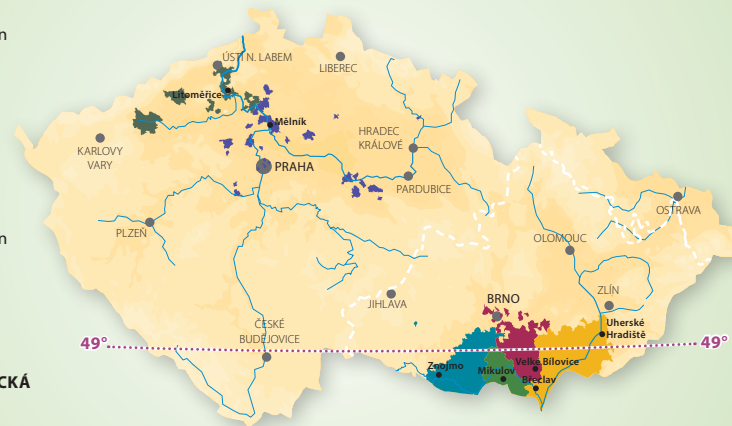
Wine sub-region:

 **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 wine-growing region Bohemia has the sub-regions of Litoměřická and Mělnická. Moravia includes 4 sub-regions: Mikulovská, Slovácká, Velkopavlovická and Znojenská.

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.



## The wine-growing region Moravia (Morava)



The wine-growing region Moravia 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.



### **The wine-growing region Moravia**

includes 16,973 ha of vineyards, representing 96% of registered vineyards in the country. There are 312 wine villages and 1,126 vineyards, which manage nearly 19,000 wine growers. The annual temperature average is 9.42°C, annual rainfall average is 510 mm and annual sunlight average is 2,244 hours according to the 78-year average discovered in the wine breeding station in Velké Pavlovice. The wine-growing region Moravia 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.





## Wine-growing sub-region Znojemska

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 Czech-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: **3,129 ha** | wine villages: **90**  
wine trails: **215** | growers: **1,151**



## Wine-growing sub-region Mikulovska

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 Po-dyjí. 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. Mikulovsko gives rise to great wines with a unique character. This is a unique place of the north pannonia lowland for vine cultivation.

total area: **4,692 ha** | wine village: **30**  
wine trails: **182** | growers: **2,439**



## Wine-growing sub-region Velkopavlovicka

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: **4,824 ha** | wine villages: **75**  
wine trails: **321** | growers: **6,917**



## Wine-growing sub-region Slovacka

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.

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

total area: **4,318 ha** | wine villages: **117**  
wine trails: **408** | growers: **8,218**



## The wine-growing region Bohemia (Čechy)



The vineyards of Bohemia belong to the most northern vineyards of European viticulture. 72 winegrowing municipalities, 152 vineyard trails and 164 wine-growers can be found here. The region is divided into two sub-regions – Mělnická and Litoměřická. A total of 639 hectares of vineyards situated in both of the sub-regions of the Bohemia wine-growing region represent 4% of all registered vineyards in the Czech Republic.

**The Mělnická sub-region** (42 municipalities, 92 wine-growers, 327 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, 51 wine-growers, 302 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 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 34 white and 27 red varieties listed in the State Book of Varieties in the local vineyards.

The background of the wide range of Moravian wines is the combination of natural conditions and the work of human hands. There are more than 800 registered wineries, big companies, small family firms, and thousands of small private wine makers in the Czech Republic. The final style of individual wines is not determined only by terroir, diverse terrain, differing soils and microclimate but also by the wine maker'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*

9.4 % of the total vineyards area



**Müller Thurgau**

8.8 % of the total vineyards area

**Riesling**  
*Ryzlink rýnský*

7.1 % of the total vineyards area



**Welschriesling**  
*Ryzlink vlašský*

6.9 % of the total vineyards area



**Sauvignon blanc**  
*Sauvignon*

5.4 % of the total vineyards area



**Pinot gris**  
*Rulandské šedé*

5.1 % of the total vineyards area

**Chardonnay**

5.0 % of the total vineyards area



**Pinot blanc**  
*Rulandské bílé*

4.7 % of the total vineyards area



**Saint Laurent**  
*Svatovavřínečné*

7.0 % of the total vineyards area



**Blafränkisch**  
*Frankovka*

6.6 % of the total vineyards area

**Zweigeltrebe**

4.5 % of the total vineyards area



**Pinot noir**  
*Rulandské modré*

4.1 % of the total vineyards area







## Wine classification in the Czech Republic

**Wine (*víno*)** – the lowest wine category from grapes produced in any EU country.

**Regional wine (*zemské víno*)** – wine made from local grapes with a minimum of 14 °NM of sugar content, can bear a label stating the area of origin, vintage and grape variety.

**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:

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

**Quality branded wine (*jakostní víno známkové*)** – wine produced by combining grapes, grape must or wines according to a constant formula.

The wine classification system in the Czech Republic is based on grape ripeness determined by measuring the sugar content in grape must at harvest time. The “°NM” abbreviation means degrees of the standardized must meter; 1° means 1 kg of natural sugar in 100 l of must. Another system is the VOC wine, which comes mainly from the origin of the wine in the region.

**Quality predicate wine (*jakostní víno s přívlastkem*)** – grapes must have all the requirements for the production of quality wines and come from one wine-growing 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.

**Kabinett 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 from 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 from 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 defrost 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 from raisins (*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.

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

Wine category based on the appellation principle established by the wine act 321/2004 Coll. 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-tastings

You can individually taste any from the wines stored (excluding sparkling wines and special predicate selections). There is always one bottle opened from each kind of wine. Detailed information regarding each wine is available on the presentation box of each wine, as well as in the catalogue. During wine-tasting a sommelier is present to advise the visitors and provide them with information about wine and individual wineries.

#### Program A1 – Open wine-tasting (standard time) – price 399 CZK

The programme takes 90 minutes.

#### Program A2 – Extended open wine-tasting – price 499 CZK

The programme takes 150 minutes.

### B – Tasting with "By the Glass" wine dispenser

Individual tasting of wines from modern wine dispenser "By The Glass"

#### Program B1 – price 100 CZK

Choice of 16 wines selected from the current wine list as per the pre-paid credit limit using the modern "BY THE GLASS" wine dispenser. Programme lasts approx 15–20 min.

#### Program B2 – price 250 CZK

Choice of 16 wines selected from the current wine list as per the pre-paid credit limit using the modern "BY THE GLASS" wine dispenser. Programme lasts approx 20–25 min.

Refundable deposit for the chip card 200 CZK.

### C – Supervised wine-tastings

Wine-tasting programmes supervised by a sommelier. The client chooses the collection of wines, which is then being tasted. A number of participants in this programme is min. 8, max. circa 45 persons. It is essential to book the date of the supervised wine-tasting in advance – without confirmation of the booked date it is not possible to guarantee the supervised wine-tasting.

#### Program C1 – price 160 CZK

Selected collection of four white and two red varieties according to the choice of sommelier (excluding sparkling and naturally sweet wines). The programme takes 20–30 minutes.

#### Program C2 – price 270 CZK

Selected collection of five white wines, four red wines and one naturally sweet wine according to the choice of sommelier. The programme takes 40–50 minutes.

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](http://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](http://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](http://www.wineofczechrepublic.cz)**  
**[www.vinazmoravy.cz](http://www.vinazmoravy.cz), [www.vinazcech.cz](http://www.vinazcech.cz)**
- » General support and promotion of Moravian and Bohemian wines in collaboration with the Wine Fund of the Czech Republic
- » Organizing international wine competition GRAND PRIX VINEX

### **Also recommend for visitors**

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



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

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of the Czech Republic

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CENTER

