



# CHALLENGE INTERNATIONAL DU VIN LAUNCHES ITS 44<sup>TH</sup> EDITION with Moldovan wines in the spotlight

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**On the 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> April 2020, the Palais des Congrès in Bordeaux will host Challenge International du Vin's 44<sup>th</sup> edition. This event will welcome 700 tasters who will blindly judge thousands of wines from around the world to elect the 2020 winners. This year, the focus will be on Moldova, a country with a great wine tradition but still little known to the general public.**

## The competition that reveals talents

Bordeaux's Palais des Congrès is home to the oldest international wine competition that has been organized for 44 years by the CDV (Concours Des Vins). Entirely independent, the competition is approved by the European Community and governed by the strict rules of the International Code of Oenological Practices of the vine and the wine. This unmissable oenology event held for two days has a jury comprised of 700 professionals (winemakers, oenologists, sommeliers, wine merchants) and savvy consumers. Nearly 5,000 wines (without vintage distinction and ready to market) from around 40 countries are to be tasted. At the end of the 2 days of tasting, 30% will be awarded medals (Gold, Silver, Bronze or a Special Prize). On Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> May, the 2020 laureates will be offered a tasting area at Vinexpo-Hong Kong. They will be able to present their award-winning wine (s) and spirit (s) of the year. This date will also launch the Special Awards Ceremony on the very premises of the tasting.

Challenge International du Vin has an indisputable recognition of French and foreign consumers thanks to the great diversity of wine products from regions around the world. There are red wines, rosés, dry and sweet whites, sparkling wines, fortified wines, spirits (of wine origin only) and organic wines.



## Honorary President 2020: Mihail DRUȚĂ

Founding member of the Moldovan Sommeliers Association, Mihail DRUȚĂ has been its President since 2011. Formerly experienced in management and trade techniques then in the world of wine, he has exercised his skills in various Moldovan wine-growing establishments as well as luxury hotels. He is currently the Chief Sommelier of Invino Enoteca, a large wine shop and bar located in the center of the Moldovan capital, Chisinau. Mihail DRUȚĂ has also been a juror at numerous international wine competitions.



### Challenge International du Vin in figures:

- 151,600 wines in competition
- 42,630 medals awarded
- 6 full-time employees
- 100 members, all volunteers

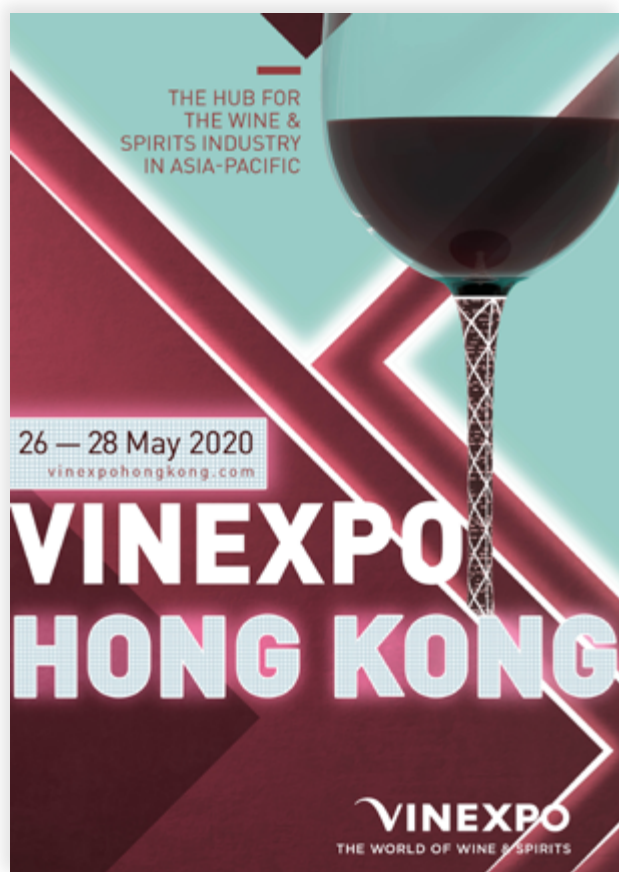


# Welcome to Moldova!

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Located between Ukraine and Romania, Moldova is a small country with a population of 3.5 million. This country, in the shape of a bunch of grapes, bares a strong ancestral viticultural culture. Wine producer since 3000 BC, vine and wine are deeply rooted in the culture and traditions of this country. The vineyard covers 112.000 hectares, almost 10 times the size of the Swiss vineyard! 70% of the grape varieties are white (Rkatsiteli, Sauvignon Blanc, Chardonnay, Aligoté) and

30% are red (Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot, Pinot Noir, Saperavi). The originality of Moldovan wines lies in the diversity of native grape varieties that make up 10% of the vineyard. In terms of production, Moldova is one of the largest wine producer in the world (1.7 million hectoliters in 2016). With 60 km of galleries and 1.3 million bottles, Cricova (an impressive underground city) is considered as the largest wine cellar in the world.



## 2020 AGENDA

**Registration opening:**  
**November, 1<sup>st</sup>**

**Registration closing:**  
**January 24<sup>th</sup>**

**Samples delivery deadline:**  
**Until February 7<sup>th</sup>**

**Competition dates:**  
**April 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>**

**Online results:**  
**April 30<sup>th</sup>**

**Award Tasting and Special Awards Ceremony at Vinexpo Hong Kong:**  
**May 26<sup>th</sup>**

