WEDDING TRADITIONS IN MOLDOVA

DAY 1

Day 1: Arrival day

On arrival at Chisinau International Airport, you will be transferred to the city centre.

Chisinau is the main administrative, scientific and cultural centre of Moldova. During the tour, you will discover pieces of history and culture of the city such as the Nativity of Christ Cathedral, the Bell Tower, the Arch of Triumph, the Monument of Stephen the Great, etc. You will also visit “Mihai Eminescu” Theatre Square, where you will be amazed by the souvenir market exhibiting interesting handicrafts and also products with national tourism brand “Moldova – discover the routes of life”.

After visiting the souvenir market, you will be transferred to your accommodation in Chisinau.

In the evening, you will have dinner at a local restaurant in Chisinau.

HIGHLIGHTS: Chisinau Shopping,

DAY 2

Day 2: Experience Moldovan traditional wedding

In the morning, you will be transferred from Chisinau to Butuceni guesthouse where you will enjoy a light lunch made of traditional chicken soup and pies.

After lunch, you will set off on a time travel to Orheiul Vechi (Old Orhei) to see a natural amphitheater revealing a territory which was first inhabited 40 000 years ago. The Cultural, Natural and Landscape Reserve Orheiul Vechi includes a series of historical and cultural monuments as well as natural landscapes in the gorge of the Raut River. Ancient fortifications, cave monasteries, monks and hermits – here you can follow the history of this region. The originality of Orheiul Vechi landscape is due to the gorge of the Raut River, dug under the form of a canyon in the limestone layers of the former Sarmatian Sea, about 14 million years ago.

After visiting Orheiul Vechi, you will prepare for the wedding imitation. You will start by a pre-wedding program. The participants will be divided into 5 groups and each group will have its role at the wedding.

The 1st group will take care of the horse carts (each of them with 5-6 persons): they will visit the farm where they will receive driving instructions of the carts, they will be responsible for conjugation of horses, preparation and decoration of carts. When the wedding begins, they will come together, crossing Butuceni village.

The 2nd group will participate in the culinary masterclass: they will cook traditional bread and pies for the wedding. For the wedding, the guests will prepare their own meals.

The 3rd group will be in charge of the music for the wedding: people participating in this group will be

trained to perform traditional wedding songs.

The 4th group will be responsible for dances: the members of this group will learn to how to perform traditional wedding dances such as “Hora” and other dances. At the wedding, the will train other wedding guests how to perform them.

The 5th group is formed by the wedding guests: this is the main group, because the main actors such as bride, groom, parents, god parents, bride mates, etc. are included here. They will be instructed by a specialist about all wedding traditions and customs, then each team member will be explained what his role is. They will wear traditional folk clothes.

When the wedding starts, each team will perform in accordance with the scenarios. Wedding guests will meet each other with traditional bread and wine. All teams will have fun and try cooked dishes.

In the evening, you will be transferred to Chisinau and will have some free time at the hotel. After having a rest, you will go to disco / night bar in Chisinau.

HIGHLIGHTS: Traditional dishes at Butuceni guesthouse , Orheiul Vechi - a 40 thousand years-old natural amphitheater, Moldovan traditional wedding,

DAY 3

Day 3: Departure day

In the morning you will check out from the hotel. You will visit the Central Market, where you will have the possibility to taste the pickles and enjoy shopping Moldovan food.

Then, you will be transferred to Chisinau International Airport.

HIGHLIGHTS: Chisinau city,