



◆ *The city, where you will feel at home!*



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General information

The city of Chisinau, the capital of the Republic of Moldova, is located on seven hills, in the immediate vicinity of the Bâc River. The territory of the localities and their surroundings have been inhabited since Paleolithic times, among the most significant archaeological remains being those belonging to the Geto-Dacian (4th-1st centuries BC) and Sântana de Mures-Cerneahov (3rd-4th centuries BC) cultures [1].

The first documented mention of toponymic „Chisinau” as a settlement dates back to July 17, 1436. In the Middle Ages, the village Chisinau was already densely populated. In the XV-XVII centuries several new settlements appeared in the vicinity of Chisinau: Buiucani, Hrusca, Vovinceni, Visterniceni, Ghecioani, Munchesti, Schinoasa... All of them, during the 19th-20th centuries, gradually became suburbs of Chisinau [1].

In 1641 Chisinau became a monastery estate, when Vasile Lupu, the lord of Moldavia, passed the Chisinau estate to the possession of the Monastery of Saint Friday in Iasi. Chisinau remained the property of this monastery until the 19th century. In 1739 the city is burned and devastated by the Ottoman army [1].

Following the Russo-Turkish War of 1812, when the area between Prut and Nistru was attached to the Russian Empire, the centre of Bessarabia was decided to be Chisinau. As the city grew and became a market town, a cultural, ecclesiastical and educational centre began to emerge. The first school organised and supported by the state and the Metropolitanate of Moldova was established in Chisinau in the 18th century. The schools functioned alongside the city's churches [1].

Gradually Chisinau is expanding territorially towards the current bd. Stefan cel Mare, in those times, bearing the name Moskovskaya Street. In 1830-36 the Cathedral Cathedral was built, together with its bell tower and the basis of a public garden was laid. The growth of the city made the villages of Buiucani, Schinoasa, Tăbăcăria, Mălina, become suburbs of Chisinau in 1830-40 [1].

The town takes on a Romanian urban appearance after the proclamation of the Union with Romania in 1918. Several schools, printing houses, libraries and theatres are opened here. A number of food industry enterprises start to operate: the first mechanized mill, bread factory, sausage factory, champagne and lemonade factory, candy factory, shoe factories, knitting factories, fur factory, exhibitions of industrial goods and agricultural machinery were organized [1].

In 1934 Pantelimon Halippa founded the first academic science institution in Bessarabia - the Romanian Social Institute. And even earlier, in 1918, also under Halippa's presidency, the Moldovan People's University was founded [1].

During the Second World War the town suffered great devastation. The architect Alexei Shchusev led the development of the general reconstruction plan from 1947-1949, when the town expanded with new residential quarters. Chisinau became the capital of the Moldovan SSR and, despite the well-known vices of the recently ousted regime, continued to develop, remaining the main centre for preserving national culture under these unfavourable conditions [1].

Following the proclamation of the independence of the Republic of Moldova on 27 August 1991, the political, administrative and cultural importance of Chisinau increased. For 585 years, the old rural agglomeration of Chisinau has undergone a complex evolution, with many dramatic or even tragic moments, until today, when it aspires to fully express its function as the capital of a modern European state [1].

1. Museums

1.1. THE NATIONAL MUSEUM OF HISTORY OF MOLDOVA

Formed on December 21, 1983, the institution underwent several name changes before adopting its current designation. Presently, the National Museum of the History of Moldova operates under the authority of the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Moldova, with its scientific activities overseen by the Academy of Sciences. The museum is situated in the former boys' gymnasium building in Chisinau [1].



Adress: 31 August 1989 street, 121A, MD-2012, Chişinău, Republic of Moldova

Maps: <https://maps.app.goo.gl/8Cuj5D9Zju3re9HR9>

1.2. MUSEUM OF THE CITY OF CHISINAU (WATER TOWER)

Widely known as the Water Tower, it was reopened in the autumn of 2011, after a break of almost 10 years... Although it has been partially damaged over the years, the building was rebuilt according to the images dated in the 1980-1983 years period, except for the fire-pit at the top, originally built of wood, later re-shaped from stone [1].



Adress: Alexei Mateevici street, 60A, Chișinău, Republic of Moldova

Maps: <https://maps.app.goo.gl/RkiwXenuECSmxHtYA>

1.3. NATIONAL MUSEUM OF ETHNOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY

Its history begins in 1889, when the Zemstva of Bessarabia organized the first Agricultural and Industrial Exhibition, which was also the basis for the foundation of the museum institution. Being the oldest museum in the Republic of Moldova, its name has often been changed over the years. Today it holds an enormous heritage of about 135 thousand exhibits [1].



Adress: Mihail Kogălniceanu street, 82, MD-2009, Chișinău, Republic of Moldova

Maps: <https://maps.app.goo.gl/T4SNKRMSNN8Wg5zAA>

1.4. NATIONAL ART MUSEUM OF MOLDOVA

This museum is situated in the center of Chisinau, making it the sole institution of its kind in the Republic of Moldova. Established in 1939 by the sculptor Alexandru Plămădeală and Auguste Baillayre, a French painter and professor at the “School of Fine Arts” in Chisinau, who also served as the inaugural director of the National Art Museum of Moldova.

The museum’s collection encompasses over 39,000 works, providing a comprehensive overview of the development of fine arts from the XV-XXI centuries. It consistently features exhibitions showcasing European, Russian, and Oriental art. Presently, the museum is housed in the former girls’ gymnasium building, originally founded by Princess Natalia Dadiani in the early 20th century [1].



Adress: 31 August 1989 115 street, Chişinău, Republic of Moldova

Maps: <https://maps.app.goo.gl/srAzdMSRT28sauVTA>

1.5. MUSEUM OF ELECTRIC TRANSPORT CHISINAU

The history of urban environmental transport in Chisinau traces back to 1888 when the City Duma, under the leadership of the mayor Carl Schmidt, entered into an agreement with a Belgian company to establish a new transportation network—the “horse streetcar” or horse-drawn streetcar. This significant transport revolution unfolded in 1889 when Bessarabia received its first two streetcars. The initial line opened on Aleksandrovskaya Street (now Stefan Velikogo Boulevard), covering a total length of 6400 m, or 6 miles. While wealthier citizens still favored carriages and phaetons, the “horse carriage” provided a more affordable and comfortable option for students and individuals with modest incomes. The first seven open cars were acquired in Warsaw, and seven closed ones in Odessa [1].



Adress: Chişinău Mitropolit Dosoftei street, 146, Chişinău, Republic of Moldova

Maps: <https://maps.app.goo.gl/Y8uuLcNdkBBCeusa6>

1.6. THE VILLAGE MUSEUM

Located at the entrance of Chisinau, near the City Gates, the Village Museum can be considered an oasis of revelation and tranquility. It is the perfect place for meditation, where visitors are enchanted by the enchanting landscape that exudes a fairy-tale atmosphere.

Established in 1991 as a branch of the National Museum of Ethnography and Natural History, the Village Museum was officially inaugurated as such in May 1995, showcasing the ambiance of a Basarabian village from the 17th to 19th centuries. The museum is home to a collection of folk architecture monuments [1].



Adress: Aeroportului street, Chişinău, Republic of Moldova

Maps: <https://maps.app.goo.gl/WDkDjmfrzJHwuB4A>

1.7. NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM OF MOLDOVA STATE UNIVERSITY

Established in 1952 through the efforts of students and faculty at the biology faculty, this museum boasts a collection exclusively gathered from expeditions organized by the faculty. Graduates of the program, who later gained recognition as biologists, contributed significantly to the exhibits.

Specialists in the field brought and meticulously prepared animals, fish, and birds from various corners of the world for the museum. The collection also features an impressive array of reptiles, birds, and mammals indigenous to the Republic of Moldova [1].



Adress: Mitropolit Gavriil Bănulescu-Bodoni street, Chişinău, Republic of Moldova

Maps: <https://maps.app.goo.gl/RcbQxp9dXcNfpU25A>

2. BUILDINGS

2.1. CHISINAU CITY HALL BUILDING

At the end of the 19th century, the then-mayor of the city, Karol Schmidt, initiated the construction of a new headquarters for the City Duma (town hall) on the site previously occupied by the fire station. The design was entrusted to the city architect Mitrofan Elladi. The renowned architect Alexandru Bernardazzi supervised the construction, which was completed in 1902.

In 1941, the building was destroyed by retreating Soviet troops. The Romanian administration managed to rebuild it by 1944, but in August of that year, during the Iasi-Chisinau operation, the building was again destroyed in the bombings [1].



Adress: Ștefan cel Mare și Sfânt bvd, 83, MD-2012, Chișinău, Republic of Moldova

Maps: <https://maps.app.goo.gl/Yh6FpgoA9NUnp5ep9>

2.2. CATHEDRAL OF CHRIST'S NATIVITY, BELL TOWER, TRIUMPHAL ARCH

The cathedral was built between 1830-1836. The idea of building such an important object of worship belonged to Metropolitan Gavriil Bănulescu-Bodoni. But the foundation stone was laid only 9 years after his death.

The architect Avraam Melnikov, chosen by competition, used the late neoclassical style (empiric style) for the building, with the use of ancient Greek forms for the columns [1].



Adress: Piața Marii Adunări Naționale 1, mun, Piața Marii Adunări Naționale 12, Chișinău, Republic of Moldova

Maps: <https://maps.app.goo.gl/TwEsFTnVqkKbAau66>

2.3. PARLIAMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA

Built between 1976 and 1979, the building has the curious shape of an “open book”. The authors were the architects Alexandru Cerdanțev and Grigore Bosenco. Designed from the beginning as an administrative building to house the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the MSSR, this building was prepared in the early 90s of the twentieth century, without essential changes, for the location of the Presidency of the Republic of Moldova [1].



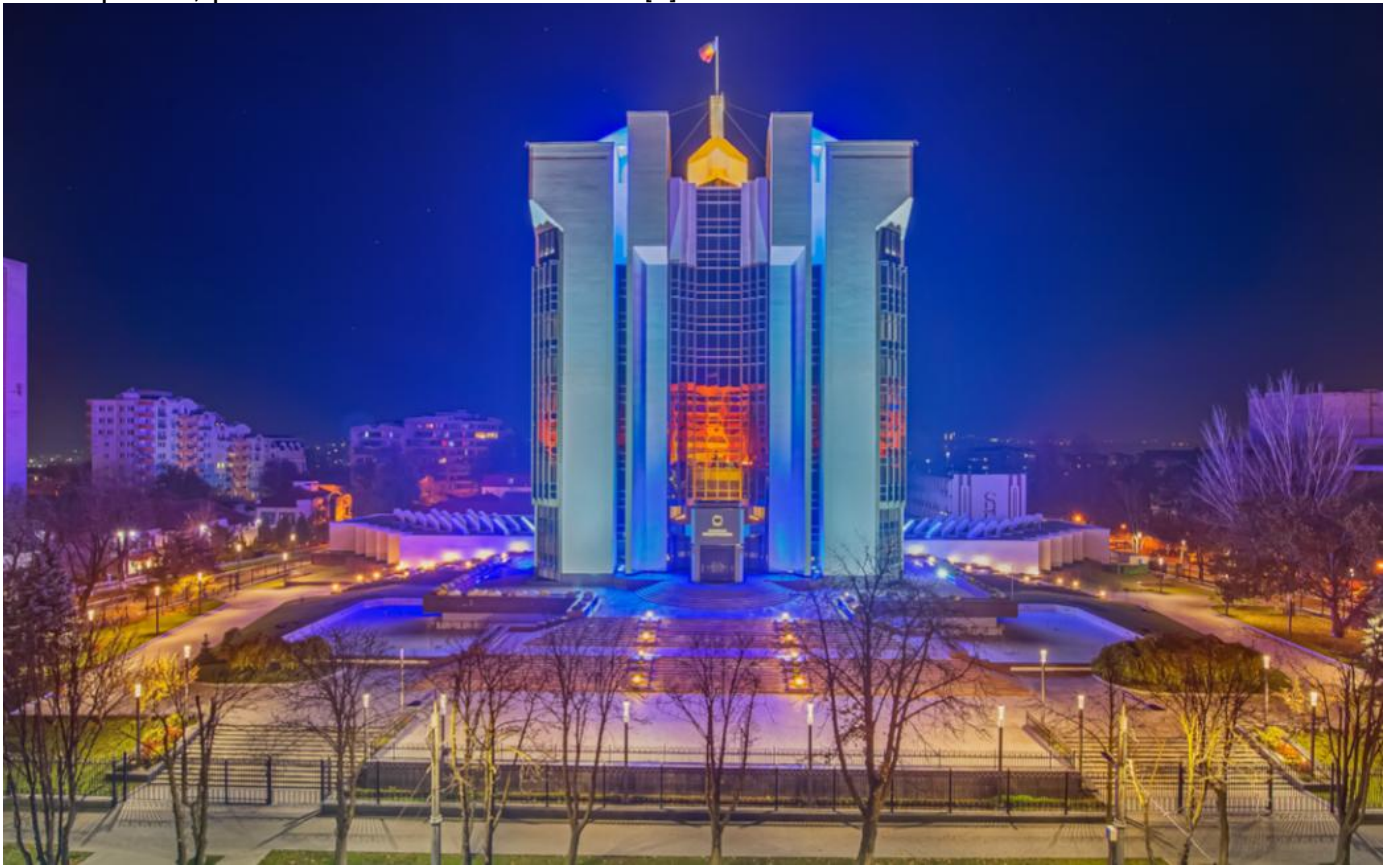
Adress: Chișinău MD, Ștefan cel Mare și Sfint blvd, 105, MD-2004, Chișinău, Republic of Moldova

Maps: <https://maps.app.goo.gl/4c7APn54FqZtixvq7>

2.4. ***PRESIDENTIAL PALACE OF THE REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA***

The building, constructed between 1984 and 1987, was designed by architects Iuri Tumanian, A. Zaltman, and V. Iavorski. Initially conceived as an administrative facility to accommodate the Supreme Soviet of the Moldovan SSR, the structure was repurposed in the early 1990s, with minimal modifications, to serve as the seat of the Presidency of the Republic of Moldova.

During the protests of April 7, 2009, the Presidency of the Republic of Moldova building was vandalized by protesters. Repair works commenced in 2009 and, with intermittent interruptions, persisted until autumn 2018 [1].



Adress: Ștefan cel Mare și Sfânt blvd, 154, MD-2073, Chișinău, Republic of Moldova

Maps: <https://maps.app.goo.gl/5SsCmMhVaRuStteRA>

2.5. *GOVERNMENT HOUSE*

The building that currently houses the Government of the Republic of Moldova was built between 1960-1965, according to the project of the architect S. Fridlin. It is located in the Grand National Assembly Square in Chisinau, on the site of the former headquarters of the Metropolitan Church and the Diocesan House of Bessarabia (destroyed during World War II). Semyon Fridlin also designed the “October” Palace (now the National Palace), for which he received the title of emeritus architect of the MSSR [1].

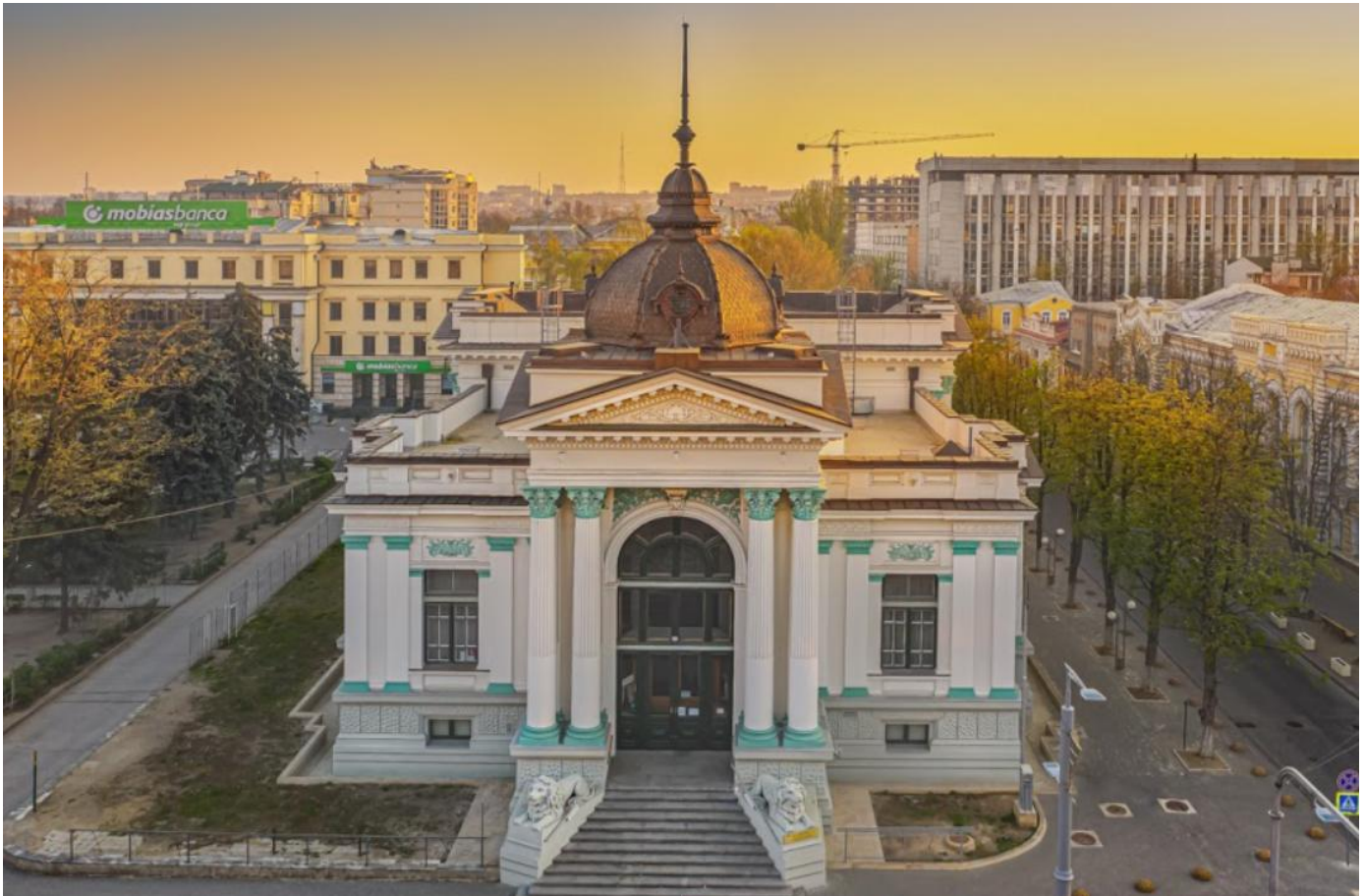


Adress: Piața Marii Adunări Naționale 1, MD-2033, Chișinău, Republic of Moldova

Maps: <https://maps.app.goo.gl/8PdfcMU3nPcbZXwb8>

2.6. ORGAN HALL

The building of the Organ Hall has a unique beauty. Initially, the Organ Hall building was designed as the City Bank. In 1902 the Municipal Council of Chisinau launched a competition of architectural projects with a prize of 1,500 rubles, which was a relatively large amount in those days. The winner was engineer Mihail Cecheru -Cush. The Organ Hall was executed to impress by its monumental forms excellently in classic style, containing some romantic art elements. Before 1974 the building hosted different financial institutions, including the National Bank [1].



Adress: Ștefan cel Mare și Sfânt blvd, 81, MD-2012, Chișinău, Republic of Moldova

Maps: <https://maps.app.goo.gl/UByrPB7PVvımGLPYA>

3. PARKS

3.1. PUBLIC GARDEN STEPHEN THE GREAT (CENTRAL PARK)

The central park in Chisinau, Moldova, is the oldest park in the country, covering approximately 7 hectares (17 acres). Originally designed in 1818 by Russian military engineers during the reign of Alexander I, the park has undergone several name changes over the years, including Alexander Garden (honoring Emperor Alexander II), Alexander Pushkin Park, and City Public Garden.

Under the guidance of architect Bogdan Eitner, the present-day alleys were established, featuring hundreds of acacias, limes, and flower beds. The park, initially enclosed by a wicker fence, was later surrounded by a cast-iron fence erected in 1868-1869, which still stands today [1].



Adress: Ștefan cel Mare și Sfânt blvd, 148, Chișinău, Republic of Moldova

Maps: <https://maps.app.goo.gl/CZXTv7Q2xxUEPyBy7>

3.2. CATHEDRAL SQUARE

It was established between 1830 and 1840, coinciding with the construction of the Cathedral. Following World War II, the square suffered significant damage. It underwent extensive restoration over the subsequent years and was named Victory Park for an extended period. The park underwent landscaping efforts, with the planting of trees, shrubs, and flower beds throughout.

Presently, the square covers an area of only 9 hectares, slightly less than the original 12 hectares. The highlight of the architectural ensemble is the Metropolitan Cathedral, which, along with the Bell Tower and the Triumphal Arch, constitutes the renowned historical complex of the capital [1].



Adress: Piața Marii Adunări Naționale 1, mun, Piața Marii Adunări Naționale 12, Chișinău, Republic of Moldova

Maps: <https://maps.app.goo.gl/dRAATijzDqwakXAF6>

3.3. THE VALLEY OF THE MILLS PARK

The park, located in the Buiucani district of the capital, has a storied history since its establishment in 1950 on the initiative of L. Brezhnev, originally named the “Central Park of Culture and Rest of the Leninist Commune.” Over the years, it has evolved into a significant recreational hub for the city.

Situated along the shore of Mill Valley Lake, the park sprawls across an expansive 114 hectares, with the lake itself covering an area of 34 hectares. The park’s design was orchestrated under the guidance of the renowned architect Robert Kurz.

Within the park’s vast expanse, visitors can enjoy various amenities, including the Green Theatre—an open-air venue with a seating capacity of 5000—a day cinema, the “Andries” children’s playground, a beach, and a boat station, among others [1].



Adress: Grigore Alexandrescu street, Chişinău, Republic of Moldova

Maps: <https://maps.app.goo.gl/Xk2WJ1C1JvnZR4FW7>

3.4. THE DENDRARIUM PARK

The Dendrarium Park in Chisinau is an 83-hectare green oasis situated in the Buiucani district. Serving as a crucial oxygen reservoir for the city's inhabitants, it functions as a natural air filter. This lush expanse is not only cherished by city dwellers but is also a popular spot for capturing memorable photographs. The Dendrarium earned state protection on 16 July 1998.

Since the initial planting of trees and shrubs in the early 1950s, the Dendrarium has cultivated a significant seed fund containing rare and highly decorative plants, totaling 1,820 taxa. Notably, the park hosts 9 out of the 13 species of woody plants listed in the Red Book of the Republic of Moldova [1].



Adress: Ion Creangă street, 20/1, Chişinău, Republic of Moldova

Maps: <https://maps.app.goo.gl/oKpub9c9rLHXMrkC8>

4. TRADITIONAL CUISINE RESTAURANTS

4.1. LA PLĂCINTE

For over 15 years, the restaurant chain "La Placinte" has become the favorite place of Chisinau residents and guests of the capital. At "La Placinte" you will always find the "gems" of the traditional moldovan cuisine, starting from the main star itself - Placinta, following many others which have become a part of moldovan culture and everyday life. Enjoy yourself a good time-spending with friends or family, in a beautiful ambiance and always welcoming stuff. From Moldova, with Love [2].



Info: https://www.tripadvisor.com/Restaurant_Review-g294456-d1089531-Reviews-La_Placinte-Chisinau_Chisinau_District.html

Locations:

1. <https://maps.app.goo.gl/iZ8tdpqY72eXxjuz7>
2. <https://maps.app.goo.gl/joVeSR12cNZVpkin8>
3. <https://maps.app.goo.gl/tn2tQuLpWNhHsryA7>
4. <https://maps.app.goo.gl/dKAXdcnofsjMJY1R7>
5. <https://maps.app.goo.gl/kqp2JH9M70dv2C6W9>
6. <https://maps.app.goo.gl/76Grrhpf7DGC6ojf6>
7. <https://maps.app.goo.gl/Lp2zQjgAN7GniyrA6>
8. <https://maps.app.goo.gl/jWDTsEUGug5CzP149>
9. <https://maps.app.goo.gl/JuA8EguCfjKYNDf8A>
10. <https://maps.app.goo.gl/Q7sRdQhesWpRNR3A6>

4.2. TAIFAS

La Taifas means Moldovan traditional experience. Moldovan authentic food, traditional design and good quality service are our greatest prize for you. Grandmother's cheese pie is the dish you will want to eat here along with local meat dishes or vegetarian fresh salads. If it's summer try out our local fruits drink. If it's winter you will want to have our hot wine or balm tea to warm you up. Enjoy your meal [2]!



Info: https://www.tripadvisor.com/Restaurant_Review-g294456-d1603684-Reviews-Taifas-Chisinau_Chisinau_District.html

Location: <https://maps.app.goo.gl/9RQnubL6DTtwXvJoz>

4.3. *FUIOR*

Fuioir is an upscale restaurant, with reinvented traditional specifics. Its menu is rich in Moldovan dishes and authentic wines. The restaurant is located in the center of Chisinau, it is distinguished by its minimalist design, combined with modern technologies. This is a place where you can discover the entire culture of Bessarabia thanks to an unforgettable tasting experience and outstanding atmosphere. Fuioir - Authentic Gourmet Cuisine [2].



Info:https://www.tripadvisor.com/Restaurant_Review-g294456-d21041974-Reviews-Fuioir-Chisinau_Chisinau_District.html

Location: <https://maps.app.goo.gl/eCDnqBU3HHWM6tvL6>

4.4. *JULIEN GASTRO BISTROT*

Julien is a gastro bistro based on local moldavian products and modern culinary techniques [2]!



Info: [https://www.tripadvisor.com/Restaurant_Review-g294456-d24192167-Reviews-Julien Gastro Bistrot-Chisinau Chisinau District.html](https://www.tripadvisor.com/Restaurant_Review-g294456-d24192167-Reviews-Julien_Gastro_Bistrot-Chisinau_Chisinau_District.html)

Location: <https://maps.app.goo.gl/YUoBDu6gPvHtmKU78>

4.5. ACASĂ LA MAMA

This restaurant will become your favorite place to eat right after your first visit. Varied menu, selected dishes, atmosphere that conveys the tradition of the Moldovan people – all this will leave you only pleasant memories!



Info: <https://www.facebook.com/restaurantacasalamama>

Location: <https://maps.app.goo.gl/GACmsvNXRKDYRB138>

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