

Oprisor Winery

Address: Oprisor, Mehedinti Co, Romania

Phone: +40 252 391310

GPS coordinates: 44.2955765, 23.0389083

Founded: 1994

Region: Oltenia, Podisul Mehedinti

AOC: Mehedinti-Golul Drincei

IG: Olteniei Hills

Area: 252 Ha

Bottled annually (in litres): aprox. 900000 L

Owner: Reh Kendermann GmbH – Bingen am Rhein - Germania

Wine experts: Veronica Gheorghiu & Liviu Grigorica

The Oprisor Winery is a producer from **Mehedinți County** in **Southwestern Romania**. It is also classified as **Dealurile Olteniei GI (Geographical Indication)**, consisting of all of five counties of **Oltenia**.



Oprișor wines accommodate a wide range of tastes and preferences, but the high-end collections are really masterpieces, through the quality of wine and label.

Oprișor wines are also known for permitting one a taste and glimpse of the fairytale realm of “**Profound Oltenia**” – by intermingling the pagan myths of **Pasărea Măiastră, Caloian** or **Rusalcă** with the Christian traditions.

Oprișor Winery’s philosophy:

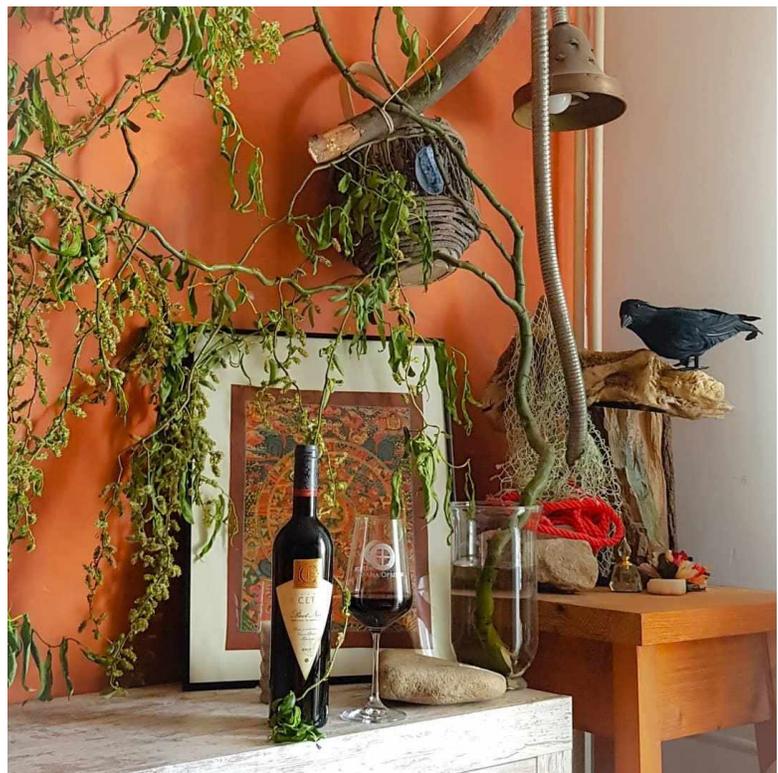
“We are accustomed to perceive present time as a moment. In each moment, we try to offer people a part of Oprișor’s soul. Forasmuch as we have been blessed with earth’s richness, the grace of the people living in these places “returned”, to make out of vineyards’ crop strong personality wines. The quality of the grapes cultivated on Oprișor’s hills, together with the craftsmanship of the people taking care of the must and the wine have an essential contribution in winery’s identity.

It’s most important to refine and ennoble the two great directions we have developed in: Inmost Oltenia and Art-and-Wine, as, in fact, each of them stands for a continuous present.

In Inmost Oltenia, traditions, customs and beliefs are but the daily, ever-fresh breaths of certain values whose originality and power of seduction do surprise. Through our wine, we try to bring to life but the values of a present which people taste, recognize and appreciate.

The Art-and-Wine concept represents the continuous discovery of different forms of creativity and their valorization through limited, collection editions, able to go beyond the frontiers of time.

Concerned with promoting artistic performance, we build constantly partnerships with the prominent institutions of national culture: The National Museum of Contemporary Art, The National University of Arts in Bucharest, The Sibiu International Theatre Festival, etc.



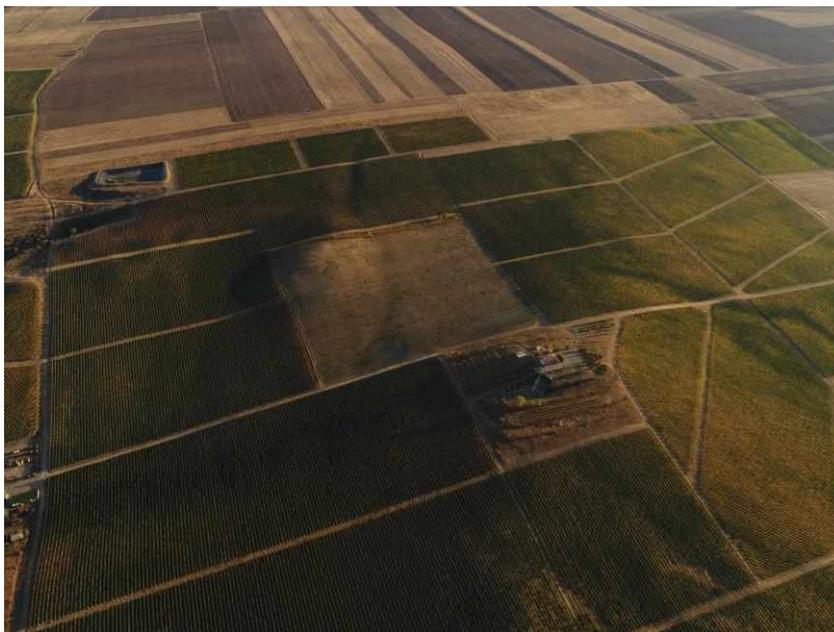
Wine is always a source of inspiration; it arouses emotion, befriends people and accompanies the good and the bad of life. We live intensely our moments and try to share them.”

The History

Tales usually start with “Once upon a time...” For the Opreșor Winery, the word “once” has both a documentary side and a reflexive note. To look back is not only a simple glance thrown behind, but a proud return in time meant to reveal people the pedestal on which we raise concepts and values.

I.C. Filitti’s writings are among the first scripts about the lands Opreșor Winery is placed on, as far as the richness of soils favourable to grapevine cultivation and to production of high-quality wines is concerned. The mention, since the 15th c., of Oltenian boyars’ estates on the Drincea Valley (among them, Neagoe of Strehaia) is continued, after 1688, by [Prince] Constantin Brancoveanu’s interest for these lands, famous for the production of best-quality wines.

“[Constantin] Brancoveanu’s concern to perpetuate his followers’ inheritance on the large estates having brought him fabulous incomes made him issue, on the 13th of August 1708, a document stipulating he was giving his son, Matei [Matthew] Brancoveanu, the part of the estate that included the vineyards belonging to the villages on the Drincea Valley.” (Ion Danilescu, Monografia satului Drincea / Monography of the Drincea Village, Alma Publ. House, Galați, 2001)



A bridge over time, a different “boyar’s behaviour” makes Opreșor area’s special potential reveal its specific and richness which God has naturally endowed Oltenia with. The investment the German Reh Kendermann Company made on the left bank of the Drincea Valley, on the very vestiges of a winery built in the 70s, stood for a new identity beginning. The origins of the firm are related to Carl Reh family,

who, in the 1920s, had built at Leiwen, on the Mosel Valley (S–W Germany), their first unit, one

of the biggest and most modern wineries in the epoch. In the 90s, the Reh Kendermann Company became the most prestigious German wine exporter.

In August 1994, Carl Reh Trading Company set up in Romania, aiming to select Romanian wines for international market. In June 1997, the division, settled at Opreșor, made the decision to produce their own wines from the grapes cultivated at the time on the already existent Oltenian vine-estate plantations in the Mehedinți area.

Carl Reh Trading, renamed Carl Reh Winery in 1998, continued their activity as a Romanian wine producer for the international market the German shareholder had set up.

In January 2000, Carl Reh Winery became the owner of the Opreșor Wine Cellar. Step by step, the hills and slopes making up Golul Drincei's wine-growing "amphitheatre", covering a surface of 250 hectares, were replanted with grapevine.

After years in which the whole wine produced at Opreșor had been directed exclusively towards the international market, we decided to offer it to Romanian consumers too. In spring 2001, Carl Reh Winery launched on Romanian market the first editions of the VAL DUNA and LA CETATE /AT THE CITADEL/ brands.

The year 2008 brought about an important change of identity. As the reputation of the Carl Reh Winery Company increased, it was high time for the CRAMA OPREȘOR /OPREȘOR WINERY/ brand to take possession of the inheritance and, in the spirit of a father-son relationship, to carry it on, developing it mostly toward Inmost Oltenia's values.



Winemakers – Liviu Gricorică, Veronica Gheorghiu



Liviu Grigorica was born in Galati on July 19th 1969.

He followed the primary school there and then, as a young student he oriented towards Alimentary Industries and Fisheries Techniques. It was there, in the second year of study when he made the choice of a lifetime: he decided to follow the specialty of Winemaking, Cans Technologies and Sugar Confectionery. He still

knows how to make candies.

1993 - as soon as he graduated a recommendation from a teacher sent him directly to Nazarcea Winery. A Winery with 2000 ha of quality grapes.

He remembers “In the first year I made 200 wagons of the famous dry Nazarcea Wine.

Only one year later he becomes the Head of the Winery. And the youngest recognized wine taster.

Soon a series of events will change his life along with the history of Romanian Wines. He had decided to leave Nazarcea as he disagreed with the actions of his boss. A new field a new destination was in front of him: the famous sweets factory Excelent. But only one day after he settled the agreement he got a call from the head of White Wines Section of Murfatlar Winery.

At the age of 25 he started his true amazing career. One of the most respected Oenological Consultants, Liviu Grigorica worked for many wineries: Murfatlar, Cotnari, Jidvei, Vincon, Recas, Carl Reh, Segarcea, Davino, Basilescu, Agricola Stirbey to mention only some. But there were many more. For some of them he himself created the wines. Because this is what Liviu Gricorică is in the first place – a wine creator.

Grape Varieties: Tămâioasă Românească, Sauvignon Blanc, Chardonnay, Pinot Grigio, Rhin Riesling, Pinot Noir, Merlot, Cabernet Sauvignon, Dornfelder, Shiraz, Fetească Neagră.



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