

Overview

This short course briefly encompasses the history of winemaking in Georgia, describes differences in traditional technologies, and maps wine regions' diversity in terms of grape varieties and climate-specific peculiarities of the main winemaking micro-zones. It also develops a good general understanding of the human and physical infrastructure of contemporary Georgian enotourism.

The aims of the course are to give students a good general understanding of:

- the roots of winemaking in Georgia
- the main stages of winemaking technology
- Georgia's wine geography
- the most successful Georgian wine brands
- the best natural winemakers and cellars the specificities of contemporary Georgian enotourism

Learning Outcomes

The expected learning outcomes are:

- good general understanding of Georgia's winemaking tradition and its modern standing,
- ability to develop an in-depth outlook on Georgian wines
- better orientation in Georgia's touristic world

Teaching Methods

The course will be taught as a combination of lectures and Q&A discussions, to include some wine comparison sessions

Company Visits:

- **Wine Artisans Chateau**
- **Nick Vacheishvili's Wine Cellar**

Program Outline

Day 1

What defines Georgia as the cradle of wine?

Artefacts, varieties, language, history, tradition

Day 2

What is Wine - a path from vineyard to glass – 1

Essential concepts and principles of winemaking in a few words: Soils, terroirs, diseases, treatments, importance of hygiene, harvesting, fermentation and vinification, wine chemistry, what defines the quality of wine, aging, and tasting.

Day 3

What is Wine - a path from vineyard to glass - 2

Essential concepts and principles of winemaking in a few words: Soils, terroirs, diseases, treatments, importance of hygiene, harvesting, fermentation and vinification, wine chemistry, what defines the quality of wine, aging, and tasting.

Day 4

Georgia's wine geography

What does history tell; communist times and associated modifications of the industry; contemporary wine geography; regions and grape varieties; regional technological specifics

Day 5

Georgian Wine Brands – Industrial and Natural wine cellars

An honest brief review of the most successful Georgian wine brands and natural wine cellars