

# we all work



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## **Moldova** Harvesting Grapes

Perhaps it's no coincidence that the Republic of Moldova is shaped like a bunch of grapes. From ancient times to today, viticulture and winemaking blend with rich centuries-old ethnic traditions. Guests are welcomed with special warmth and soothing wines. When savoring Moldovan wines, one senses the warmth of the sun, the cool morning dew, the clean air, the texture of rich soil. Every villager has his press, vat, and casks to make wine in his home. To fully appreciate this noble craft, one must partake in the traditional toast or "Noroc" which can mean hello, good luck, happiness, health, and may all your wishes come true. -- *Harlen Persinger*

### **Moldova (Republic of Moldova)**

**Capital** Chisinau (Kishinev)

**Population** 4,320,748 (2009 est.)

**Life Expectancy** 70.8 years

**Literacy** 99.1%

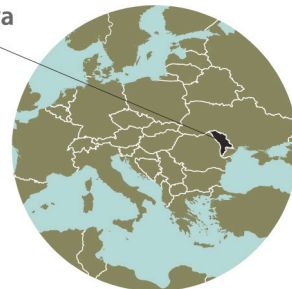
**Languages** Moldovan (official), Russian, Gagauz (a Turkish dialect)

**Religions** Eastern Orthodox 98%, Jewish 1.5%, Baptist and other 0.5%

**Government** republic

*Source: The World Factbook, 2009*

Moldova



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