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# AWAY SUPPORTERS GUIDE

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## EUROPA LEAGUE GROUP STAGES



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**DATE:** THURSDAY 15<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2022

**KICK OFF TIME:** 17:45 (GMT)/19:45 (LOCAL TIME)

**LOCATION:** ZIMBRU STADIUM, CHISINAU, MOLDOVA

## OVERVIEW OF MOLDOVA

Moldova is a landlocked country in Eastern Europe, located between Ukraine and Romania, the latter with which it shares a strong cultural heritage.

Two-thirds of Moldovans are of Romanian descent, and the two countries share a common cultural heritage. Moldovans speak either Romanian, which is the native language, Russian or Gagauz. Some speak all three. However, Moldova's second language, Gagauz, is in danger of dying out. Spoken in the Autonomous Region of Gagauz, the Turkic language is classed as critically endangered by UNESCO.

The region known as Transnistria declared independence from Moldova in 1990, precipitating the War of Transnistria which secured a de facto independence for the territory. However, the region, which has its own currency and border controls, is not officially recognised by any member of the United Nations.

Moldova is well renowned for producing wine and the Guinness World Records recognise the Mileştii Mici wine cellar in Moldova as the world's largest with nearly two million bottles of wine in its darkened vaults.

The Moldovan flag features the head of an auroch (a now extinct type of cattle which is the national animal of Moldova) mounted on a shield. The Zimbru Stadium, where we will be playing the match, takes its name from the Romanian word for bison.

## OVERVIEW OF CHISINAU

Chişinău, also known as Kishinev, is the capital and largest city of the Republic of Moldova. The city is Moldova's main industrial and commercial centre, and is located in the middle of the country, on the river Bâc, a tributary of the Dniester. According to the 2014 census, the city had a population of 532,513, Chişinău is the most economically prosperous locality in Moldova and its largest transportation hub.

## LANGUAGE

Moldovan (which is almost identical to Romanian). Several other languages are also assigned an official status, including Gagauz, Russian and Ukrainian.

## OUR OPPOSITION

Full name:	Fotbal Club Sheriff
Nickname(s):	Zholto-chornyye (The Yellow-Blacks) Osy (The Wasps)
Founded:	1997 as FC Tiras Tiraspol
Ground:	Zimbru Stadium, Botanica, Chisinau (Home ground is normally Sheriff Stadium in Tiraspol, a city located in the unrecognised breakaway state of Transnistria. UEFA moved the game to Chisinau on safety grounds)
Capacity:	10,400
President:	Victor Guşan
Head Coach:	Stjepan Tomas
League:	Superliga
Website:	<a href="http://www.fc-sheriff.com/">http://www.fc-sheriff.com/</a>

## CONTACTS AND COMMUNICATION

### United Kingdom - Embassy

18 Nicolae Iorga Street

Chisinau 2012

Phone: +373-22-225-902

Fax: +373-22-251-859

[gov.uk/british-embassy-chisinau](http://gov.uk/british-embassy-chisinau)

## EMERGENCY SERVICES

Police	112
Fire	112
Ambulance	112
Country Code	+373

## CURRENCY

leu (current exchange rate is £1 = 22MDL)



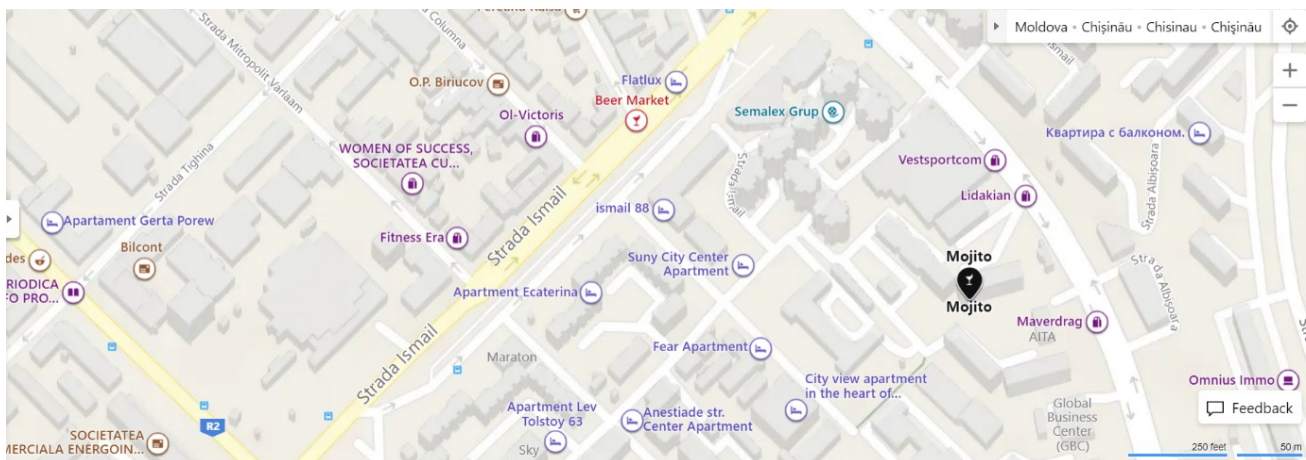
### MATCH TICKET COLLECTION POINT

Match tickets should be collected from **Mojito Bar, Bd. Stefan cel Mare is Scant, 152, 2012 Chisinau, Kishinev.**

This location has been chosen due to its close proximity to the main areas of bars and restaurants, including the popular Beer Market. It is located just off the main road and is next to the Teatrul National De Opera Si Balet Maria Biesu building.

Due to the small allocation of tickets, we will only be operating the match ticket collection on the day of the game (Thursday 15 September). The collection desks will open at 9am and will remain open until kick off. Please arrive early in the day to collect your ticket where possible.

To collect match tickets, each individual supporter must have proof of purchase (booking confirmation email is fine) and the passport used to travel to the game. Tickets will only be issued to the individual attendee – any tickets attempted to be collected by other supporters will not be issued and those who do not collect will not receive a European Away Game Credit on their account for the game.



### GETTING TO THE STADIUM

The address for Zimbru Stadium, Chisinau is:  
Bd. Dacia, 45,  
Kishinev,  
2062

From the centre, fans can take a taxi or the number 22 bus which stops outside the ground. It takes approximately 20 minutes and costs less than £1 (to be paid in local currency). There is a stop on the main street (Strada Ismail) near the ticket collection point. The busses will run back to the city centre from the stadium after the match too.

### MEETING POINT

There is no official meeting place or fan park for this fixture. We have been told the bars and restaurants in close proximity to the stadium will welcome away fans.

### ARRIVAL AT STADIUM

The local police have advised that all supporters arrive at the stadium from 5:45pm (local time), as the security checks at the entrance may take some time. Anyone not in the stadium by 7pm (local time) may be delayed in entering the stadium in time for kick-off.

## ACCESSING THE STADIUM

**Match Tickets:** Only supporters with a valid match ticket will be admitted. Those with damaged or forged tickets, or people who have lost or had their ticket stolen will not be allowed access. Entry in to the stadium can be slow. There will be ticket checks and searches by the local stewards and police both in advance and entering the stadium.

**All supporters must have photo ID (passport) with them in order to gain entry to the stadium.**

Tickets are not transferable and cannot be used by any other supporter. Duplicate tickets will not be issued. Take care of your match ticket at all times.

Row numbers are clearly marked, please ensure that you sit in the seat that has been allocated to you.

**Stadium Access:** Manchester United fans are located in the upper and lower tiers of Tribune D in Blocks 39 and 40 (upper) and 20 (lower).

Turnstiles open 2 hours before kick off at 17:45hrs (local time) and supporters are advised to arrive early for ticket and security checks prior to entering the stadium.

All supporters (home and away fans) will enter the stadium via the entry point adjacent to the main road. There will be 5 dedicated turnstiles for Manchester United fans.

There will be soft ticket checks and through searches prior to entering the stadium. Sheriff stewards will conduct the searches and ticket checks with local police officers in support.

Police and stewards are present both inside and outside this area. There are 4 turnstile booths with dedicated staff operating the barcode readers. After passing through the checks, supporters will walk round the perimeter of the stadium to the far end where our tickets are located. There is no lift to the upper section and it is accessed from the lower tier via several flights of steps.

Local Police have stated that supporters will not be allowed in the stadium if:

- You do not have a valid match ticket
- You have been prohibited from attending sports events in the past
- You are visibly drunk or under the effect of narcotics
- You are found to be carrying prohibited items

## AWAY FANS SECTION

There is no safety netting or Plexiglas in place for this match and views from the away section are shown below:



**Any Manchester United supporters in the home areas of stadium face ejection for inappropriate behaviour and this may result in further sanctions being taken by Manchester United Football Club.**

## MATCH PROGRAMME

Sheriff have not yet confirmed if they will be producing a programme for this match so please ask at the stadium

## FOOD AND DRINK

Within the away end, there are a small number of refreshment outlets available inside the stadium. Payment is available by cash only (local currency only).

## SMOKING

Smoking is not allowed within the stadium bowl.

## TOILETS

There is a good number of male and female toilets located at the back of the away stand. The style of toilet is not what we would see in the UK and are much more basic in style (i.e. floor level with no seat.)

## ACCESS INFORMATION

We have been allocated 5 wheelchair bays for this match and they are located in the home area (to the left of the away end if facing the pitch) of the stadium and entry is via the main entrance. You will then be assisted to your seat.

The wheelchair bays are located on ground level, but there is a small drop down to pitch level so they do have a slightly elevated view. The personal assistant seats are located behind the wheelchair bay locations. There are accessible toilets available nearby.



For supporters located in the away end, there is no lift to the upper section. It is accessed via steps at the back of the lower tier.

Additional information can also be found on CAFÉ Football website <https://www.cafefootball.eu/>

## POST-MATCH

We have been advised that away fans are normally requested to remain in their sets for a period of up to 20 minutes after the game. The decision re exact timings will be made by the police and stewards and will be communicated to fans via the PA system. We ask that you be patient and work with the Club at this time.

## ACCEPTABLE ITEMS

- Flags or banners 2m x 1m; without poles and subject to size, language and content
- Small bags (16.5 x 12 x 6.5 inches) are permitted but will be subject to a thorough search.
- Small personal cameras; no professional equipment, for private use only

## PROHIBITED ITEMS

- No pyrotechnics, smoke bombs or flares
- No lighters or electronic cigarettes
- No megaphones and drums
- No Professional audio or visual recording equipment
- No bottles (including water) or cans will be allowed in to the stadium

The use of pyrotechnics, flares and smoke bombs is also prohibited and anyone found in possession of or being associated to these items faces arrest.

**Please note:** the above acceptable and prohibited items is not extensive and is subject to change. The final decision on what will or won't be allowed in to the stadium lies with Sheriff and the local police

**Alcohol is banned within the stadium:** it is an offence to be under the influence of drink and drugs when you enter the stadium. Discretion lies with the Sheriff stewards as to who is deemed a safety risk, so please drink sensibly or you may face the possibility of not being allowed to enter the stadium.

## LUGGAGE

No large bags and luggage is permitted inside the stadium.

**Please note** the above acceptable and prohibited items is not extensive and is subject to change. The final decision on what will or won't be allowed in to the stadium lies with Sheriff and the local police.

## ALL RED ALL EQUAL

Discriminatory behaviour which includes, shouting, chanting or actions such as racist, sectarian, homophobic, sexist or anti-disability behaviour is unacceptable. If you witness incidents like these please get in contact with a steward as soon as you can and report your concerns, this will help us to act on them as quickly as possible.

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

### Crime

Crime generally poses a moderate threat in Moldova. Opportunistic and non-violent crimes such as muggings, pickpocketing, credit card theft, ATM fraud, vehicle break-ins and burglaries represent some of the most frequently reported criminal activity. Petty crime is particularly prevalent in crowded markets and on public transportation. Foreign travellers are often targeted due to their perceived affluence. Crime in rural areas is more limited. Although violent crime is not common in Moldova, racially-motivated crimes have sporadically been reported.

### Police

Travelers in need of assistance should contact their diplomatic mission in addition to security forces. Police officers are typically able to speak some foreign languages, including Russian and Romanian.

## HEALTH

### Air Quality

Air pollution routinely exceeds recommended thresholds in urban areas. Individuals with asthma or chronic cardiorespiratory conditions should consult with a healthcare provider and carry necessary medications. On days when air quality is particularly poor, affected individuals should take personal precautions to reduce respiratory stress.

### Food/Water Safety

Drinking water may be unsafe in Moldova, especially in rural areas. Use only bottled, boiled, or otherwise purified water for drinking and cooking. Do not use ice cubes made from unpurified water sources. Eat only thoroughly cooked food served hot, or fruits and vegetables that you have cleaned and peeled; avoid salads. Consume only pasteurized milk and dairy products, or use powdered or canned milk and cured cheeses. Avoid street vendors and unregulated food establishments.

## RECOMMENDED IMMUNIZATIONS FOR TRAVEL TO MOLDOVA

Travelers should ensure that they have routine vaccination courses and boosters. You should discuss these with a health care professional prior to the trip. Routine vaccines include measles-mumps-rubella (MMR), diphtheria-tetanus-pertussis, varicella (chickenpox), polio, and annual flu vaccine. Travelers should consider obtaining COVID vaccination where available, even if the destination country does not require it.

## MEDICAL FACILITIES

Medical facilities are limited, including in Chisinau. In rural areas, even routine medical care may be unavailable. Most facilities are run by the state and private facilities are generally unavailable outside of the capital. While the country is undergoing a modernisation of its hospitals, supplies and other resources in hospitals may be limited. Doctors, paramedics and other medical staff generally speak Russian or Romanian and travellers may encounter difficulty communicating in English. Many medical facilities expect payment in cash, regardless of whether the patient has a travel health insurance plan. Serious medical problems may require medical evacuation to Western Europe.

## ENTRY/EXIT

### Entry Requirements:

Travelers can obtain specific information about visas and other entry-exit requirements at: [www.gov.uk/foreign-travel-advice/moldova/entry-requirements](https://www.gov.uk/foreign-travel-advice/moldova/entry-requirements)



## TRANSPORTATION - CHISINAU

Chisinau does not have a subway system, but does have a variety of trolley buses, buses and mini-buses - though the comfort, quality and reliability of the services vary.

All forms of public transportation are usually crowded, and shoving and pushing does occur at times. The mini-buses are the least crowded form of public transport. All forms of public transportation are generally safe, though petty theft - including pickpocketing and purse snatching - remains a threat.

## AIR TRAVEL

Airports in Moldova are generally efficient and safe.

Moldova's only international airport is Chisinau International Airport (KIV), located approximately 15 km (9 miles) south-east of the capital city. Several airlines operate flights to the airport. Moldova's national carrier, Air Moldova, has a good safety record and is considered safe for use.

The airport is well connected to the city centre. Taxis are available outside the arrival hall, although meters are not used and fare negotiation is advisable before entering a vehicle. An airport bus service, as well as one local bus route, connects the airport to the city centre. Air travel to other parts of the country may be problematic and overland travel is the preferred means of travel within Moldova.

## LOCAL BUSES

Intercity buses are available between most major cities. Intercity buses in Moldova have an average safety record. Terrorists have not attacked buses in Moldova in the past decade. Terror warnings are rare on Moldova's intercity bus network.

City buses are available in most urban centres. City buses in Moldova have an average recent safety record. Terrorists have not attacked buses in Moldova in the past decade. Terror warnings are rare on Moldova's intercity bus network.

## MARITIME SERVICES

Limited maritime services are available in Moldova. Moldova has one port, Giurgiuleshti, along the Danube River inland waterway. Travel via ferry or passenger vessel is available between Giurgiuleshti and Istanbul, Turkey. Ports of call vary in provision of security; Giurgiuleshti International Free Port is typically safe. Ferries are prone to occasional accidents due to inclement weather and poor maintenance. Maritime piracy is uncommon in the Danube River.

## MASS TRANSIT OPTIONS IN MOLDOVA

### Metro:

Moldova does not have a metro system.

### Taxi:

Taxis are readily available in all major cities in Moldova. Overcharging is commonly perpetrated against taxi passengers, especially foreign nationals. Taxis arranged in advance by upscale hotels or trusted business associates are generally safer than those hailed on the street.

Ridesharing services or vehicles ordered through online apps are available in few major cities in Moldova.

### Train Travel:

Moldova has a small intercity passenger rail network. Rail travel is available between few major cities. Trains in Moldova are prone to delays.

### International Rail Travel:

Moldova has international rail connections with Russia, Ukraine, and Romania. Connections between Moldova and Russia, Ukraine, and Romania are subject to border controls, and passengers may be required to pass through customs before crossing.

### Vehicles and Roads:

Road safety conditions in Moldova are generally poor. Traffic in Moldova drives on the right. Roads in areas outside of Chisinau are generally poorly maintained. Drivers generally ignore traffic laws. Armed gangs have a history of attacking vehicles in the Transnistria region. Foreigners planning to drive in Moldova must have a valid driver's license. Car rentals are available in most major cities.

### International Road Travel:

Moldova has international road connections with Ukraine and Romania. Connections between Moldova and Ukraine and Romania are subject to border controls, and passengers may be required to pass through customs before crossing.

### IF YOU ARE ARRESTED

You can contact the British Consulate and request consular assistance if you are arrested, however they cannot get you out of prison, represent you in court or pay your bills.

### MINIMISE THE RISK

- Consider the impact of wearing Club colours when not inside the stadium
- It is mandatory to carry Photo identification. Police conduct checks and want to see originals
- Carry a note of the address of your hotel, it can help people give you directions and ensure that taxi drivers know where you want to go
- Keep the number of valuables you carry to a minimum - passport, a credit card, your phone and some money
- Keep valuables/cash out of sight, especially in crowded areas, tourist spots, and public transport, where pickpockets and bag snatchers operate. Only carry what you need, leave spare cash and valuables in hotel safety deposits
- Change money at a bank, hotel, or in exchange kiosks – NOT on the street
- Carry the contact number for your travel insurer at all times
- Carry the address and telephone number of the British Consulate so you can call for help
- Leave a photocopy of your passport and other documents safe in your hotel in case you lose the originals
- Do not carry weapons of any sort, you may get you arrested
- Be alert to the possibility of street crime and petty theft as foreigners may appear to be lucrative targets. Where possible, avoid walking alone late at night in dark or poorly lit streets
- Do not leave drinks or food unattended as they could be spiked
- Beware of accepting drinks from casual acquaintances
- Do not drink in the streets, you can be arrested for doing so
- Do not leave bags unattended at any time



**WE WISH YOU A SAFE JOURNEY AND LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU IN MOLDOVA.**