

## **Wine harvest festivals**

The grape harvest closes the vegetative cycle of the vine after the grapes have begun to ripen. Tradition established certain dates in the agricultural calendar, coinciding with the end of summer and the beginning of autumn, for harvesting the grapes, and the vineyards were filled with teams of grape pickers who collected the bunches in baskets to be transported to the wine press.

The people of Castile and León, whole families and almost entire towns, lived days of real hustle and bustle with carts, baskets and merrymaking, transforming the grape harvest into a real party. The modernisation of viticulture and the professionalisation of the grape harvest have not eclipsed this popular festival, but rather have enhanced it and today the designations of origin and many towns celebrate their grape harvest festival, which begins with the treading of the first grapes and the tasting of the first must.

**Discover the 2024 Grape Harvest Festival in Castile and León**