

**SIPPING FOREIGN TASTES: TRAVELLERS' ACCOUNTS ABOUT BEVERAGES
ENCOUNTERED IN THE ROMANIAN PRINCIPALITIES IN THE SEVENTEENTH
TO THE NINETEENTH CENTURIES**

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***Abstract.** The article focuses on the encounter with the Other from the perspective of the consumed drinks in the Romanian Principalities in the seventeenth to the nineteenth centuries. International beverages—such as coffee, wine, or spirits—gain distinctive iconic meanings in association to the local spatiality, according to their use in private or public spaces. They are charged with cultural, religious, and economic implications and become polymorphous markers of taste. The analysis relies on criticism in mentalities, food studies, spatial studies, semiotics of food and drinks, and reveals the plurivalent connections established between taste and a space matrix which reunites and transfigures Oriental and Occidental influences.*

***Keywords:** coffee, wine, wormwood wine, identity, travellers, the Other, spatiality.*