



QUINTA DO CRASTO

SINCE 1615

QUINTA DO CRASTO VINHA DA PONTE 2016

Appellation

Douro

Viticultural Year

Adverse weather conditions made 2016 a complex year. The winter saw generous levels of rainfall, far above the average for the last thirty years. It was also warmer than usual through the end of January. The rain continued into early spring, but it was accompanied by an considerable fall in temperatures that slowed the growth of the vines. July and August were extremely hot and dry. The rainy winter had provided abundant water reserves that yielded lush vines with excellent canopies. The grapes were ripening well, if slowly. Quinta do Crasto saw 18mm of rain on 24 and 25 August, which was of great benefit to the vines. This, together with a fall in temperatures in early September, gave rise to the perfect ripening of the grapes.

The white grape harvest began on 2 September and the first red wine grapes began coming into the winery on 5 September. The good weather continued throughout the harvest, enhancing maturation and this allowed us to pinpoint the exact moment to pick each particular vineyard or variety.

As a result, the whites, reds and Ports made this year had excellent colour, deep aromas and serious structure, as well as being elegant and well-balanced.

The complexity of this harvest meant the viticultural and winemaking team had to spend considerable time in the vineyards so as to make the most important decisions that would lead to great wines.

Grape Varieties

Old Vines - mixed plantings, with several grapes varieties.

Winemaking

The grapes, coming from the vineyard plot Vinha da Ponte, are taken to the winery in 22 kg boxes. On arrival in the winery they are rigorously inspected on a sorting table. The grapes are then completely destemmed and crushed in traditional stone tanks ('lagares'). After this, the juice is transferred to temperature-controlled stainless steel tanks. Once the alcoholic fermentation is completed, the juice is gently pressed.

Ageing

About 20 months in new oak barrels. The final wine is made from a selection of the finest barrels.

Tasting Note

Deep purple in colour. The nose shows elegant aromas of wild berry fruit, well-integrated with fresh spice notes and delicate cocoa hints. Balanced on the palate, evolving into a wine of great volume, with a solid structure made of velvety-textured tannins. This is a complex wine, with an elegant, fresh and lingering finish. A wine from a unique terroir that perfectly reflects the enormous complexity and depth of the Vinha da Ponte vineyard.



Technical information

Age of Vines About 100 years	Aspect, Soil and Altitude South/East Schist soil 190 - 210 m	Alcohol, ABV 14%	Analytical Data Total Acidity: 5,1 gr/L pH: 3,64 Residual Sugar: 1,6 gr/L	Winemaker Manuel Lobo
Serving temperature 16-18°	Landscaping <i>Socalcos</i> (terraces supported by stone walls)	Bottling October 2018		