



# QUINTA DO CRASTO

SINCE 1615

## QUINTA DO CRASTO TOURIGA FRANCA 2018

### Appellation

Douro

### Viticultural Year

After the hot and dry year of 2017, the winter of 2018 brought little relief in terms of precipitation. In fact, there was hardly any rain at all from October 2017 until February 2018. Then, the first rains began late in the month and continued in abundance until mid-June. The spring was wet and mild in temperature, which led to considerable problems with mildew between flowering and fruit set. This was an unusual problem for most Douro Valley grape growers. We had to ready to act at precisely the right moment, as there was no margin of error in controlling for vineyard health. At the end of July came the veraison, and the grapes began to ripen. August was hot and dry. Thankfully, the spring rains had left soil water reserves that allowed the vines to do their job and produce an excellent canopy. Outstanding grape ripeness was the result. Cold nights and hot, dry September days allowed late-ripening grape varieties such as Touriga Franca to reach excellent levels of ripeness. The 2018 harvest began with the arrival of the first white grapes from Quinta do Crasto on August 29, and we wrapped up on October 14 with the last grapes from the highest altitude vineyards. On balance, 2018 brought exceptional balance and freshness to our white wines; our reds turned out concentrated, with outstanding structure and freshness, and clearly defined aromas. The Port wines show excellent ageing potential.

### Grape Varieties

Touriga Franca

### Winemaking

The grapes, coming from the best Touriga Franca plots of Quinta do Crasto, are taken to the winery in 22 kg plastic boxes and rigorously inspected on arrival. The grapes are then completely destemmed and slightly crushed. After this, the juice is transferred to temperature-controlled stainless steel tanks. Once the alcoholic fermentation is completed, the grape are gently pressed.

### Ageing

18 months in French oak barrels.

### Tasting Note

Deep purple in colour, this wine shows intense aromas of wild berry fruit in harmony with delicate notes of spice. Excellent volume on the palate, with a serious structure composed of fine-textured, lingering tannins. The finish is fresh and persistent. This is an enveloping wine that perfectly mirrors the typicity of the Touriga Franca grape variety.



### Technical information

<b>Age of Vines</b> 35 years old	<b>Aspect, Soil and Altitude</b> East - South 300 metres	<b>Alcohol, ABV</b> 14,5%	<b>Analytical Data</b> Total Acidity: 5,8 gr/L pH: 3,65 Residual Sugar: 1,8 gr/L	<b>Winemaker</b> Manuel Lobo
<b>Serving temperature</b> 16-18°	<b>Landscaping</b> Patamares (terraces) with two rows of vines	<b>Bottling</b> January 2020		