



QUINTA DO VESUVIO



Quinta do Vesúvio is one of the greatest estates of the Douro. The magnificent house, chapel and winery were built in 1827.

Vesúvio has been considered one of the most important properties of the Douro throughout its long history. The 137-hectare vineyard is predominantly north and west facing and rises from 110 meters at the river side to 450 meters. This estate makes exceptionally balanced wines, amongst the finest in the entire region. The soil is predominantly schistous with small granite outcrops.


SYMINGTON
Family Estates

WINE DESCRIPTION SHEET

COMBOIO DO VESUVIO DOC DOURO RED 2019

THE WINE

There has been a station on the main line Douro railroad at Quinta do Vesúvio since 1887 and the trains that daily call there are very much part of the property's day to day life. This railway forms part of Vesúvio's rich heritage and when the Symington family decided to launch this third dry red wine from the legendary estate, it felt only natural to evoke the propitious coexistence between railway and vineyard. The 'Comboio do Vesúvio' (Vesúvio Train) is unoaked to underscore the wine's youthful, fruit forward profile.

VINTAGE OVERVIEW

We had a very dry and mild winter and spring, and by late summer the vines were in need of water to keep maturations on track. Fortunately, the virtual absence of rain from May to late August was counterbalanced by cooler summer conditions, which attenuated the lack of water. Before the vintage, we experienced fine conditions including some useful rain in late August, which rehydrated the vines. We were blessed with ideal harvest conditions throughout September with clear sunny days bringing moderate temperatures that contributed to balanced ripening. Yields were closer to average following the exceptionally small years of 2017 and 2018. Expressive aromas, freshness and liveliness, in contrast to the concentration of recent years, are the hallmarks of the 2019 wines.

WINEMAKING

The hand-picked grapes from selected parcels at Vesúvio are harvested into small, shallow 20 Kg open containers. At the winery, the bunches are first manually sorted and then gently destemmed. The berries are then carefully machine-sorted, and gravity transported to the top of the fermentation vats. There, still whole, they're gently crushed, and gravity fed directly into the vats. Fermentations are closely monitored, and temperatures and macerations (plunging, pumping over and rack and return) are adjusted each day (after daily tastings) to tap all the grapes' potential. We aim to produce a wine showing balance, with expressive fruit and harmonious flavours, ready to enjoy young whilst preserving some ageing potential.

WINEMAKERS

Charles Symington, Pedro Correia and Hugo Almeida.

PROVENANCE & GRAPE VARIETIES

Quinta do Vesúvio
35% Touriga Franca
30% Touriga Nacional
30% Tinta Roriz
5% Tinta Barroca

AGEING & PRODUCTION

Aged without any contact with wooden vats.
Bottled February 2021.

STORAGE & SERVING

Ready to drink but will develop favourably in bottle through 2024.

TASTING NOTE

Fresh, conifer woodland fragrance, combining with characteristic Douro Superior rock rose aromas (a wildflower much associated with the Douro). In the background, some strawberry notes also compose the understated bouquet. Herbal notes on the palate, with hints of peppers, clove, and rich, plummy flavours. Peppery tannins provide a sprinkle of seasoning to a well-structured wine balanced by fine acidity.

WINE SPECIFICATION

Alcohol: 14.5% vol.
Volatile acidity: 0.4 g/L (acetic acid)
Total acidity: 5.6 g/L (tartaric acid)
pH: 3.59
Total sugars (glu+fru): 0.8 g/L
Colour intensity: 1.1
Allergy advice: Contains sulphites
Compatible with vegetarian and vegan diets.