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SCORES

"Best Buy" 88 Points, Wine & Spirits, 2021

VALE DO BOMFIM DOC DOURO RED 2019

This wine comes from the Symington family's Douro Valley vineyards in Northern Portugal, and in particular from those which traditionally supply the House of Dow's, one of the family's premier Port marques.

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 re-hydrated 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 grapes are sorted with great care, de-stemmed and gently crushed. The fermentation temperatures and the maceration process, through pumping over and rack and return procedures, are closely monitored and adjusted for each individual fermentation, so that the wine can best reflect the innate quality and characteristics of the grapes earmarked for this wine. Sensory analysis determines the moment solids are separated from the free run juice, to produce a fruit driven red wine, with a medium structure, which ages 6 months in oak to complete its élevage, achieving the final profile to be bottled.

TASTING NOTE

Deep, ruby-red color. Quite distinctive rock rose floral essence with some background notes of resin and pine. On the palate, there are fruit forward ripe red berry flavors, wrapped in a coat of spiced tannins that give the wine structure and balance.

WINEMAKER

Charles Symington, Pedro Correia and Hugo Almeida assisted by the Symington DOC Douro winemaking team.

PROVENANCE & GRAPE VARIETIES The grapes are principally sourced from Quinta do Bomfim and Quinta da Senhora da Ribeira. 50% Touriga Franca 30% Field Blend 20% Touriga Nacional

WINE SPECIFICATION Alcohol: 13.5 % vol Total acidity: 5.6 g/l tartaric acid

UPC: 094799020738

STORAGE & SERVING

Store the bottle horizontally in a dark place with constant temperature, ideally between 55°F. Although approachable now, this fine wine has the potential to develop superbly in bottle for another 2 to 3 years.

Decanting: Not Required



This company meets the highest standards of social and environmental impact