



QUINTA
DA
FORTE SOUTO
P O R T A L E G R E



SCORES

92 Points, Wine Enthusiast, 2022
92 Points, James Suckling, 2023
90 Points, Wine Spectator, 2021
90 Points, Wine Advocate, 2021

QUINTA DA FORTE SOUTO RED 2018

THE VINEYARD

The 511-acre Quinta da Fonte Souto was acquired by the Symington family in 2017. Lying on the slopes of the São Mamede mountain range at an altitude of 1640 feet in the Alentejo sub-region of Portalegre.

THE WINE

The Fonte Souto Estate red embodies all the strengths of the property's unique terroir. The freshness and balance afforded by the altitude; the concentration, which derives from mature, low-yielding vines, and the complexity and structure provided by the judicious combination of grape varieties. This red is built around the signature Alicante Bouschet with important contributions from Alfrocheiro and old vines (field blend).

VINTAGE OVERVIEW

Temperatures and rainfall during the winter were close to the seasonal average for the region, but temperatures rose substantially during the spring and this accelerated the vines' growth cycle. The considerable heat continued during the summer with virtually no rainfall from the middle of May. However, the advanced growth cycle and the good management of the water reserves accumulated during the winter and beginning of spring, and the diurnal temperature variation (hot days, cool nights), typical of higher altitudes, favored balanced and complete ripening, all the more remarkable in such a hot, dry year. The harvest was one of the earliest in living memory and it was possible to harvest selectively, ensuring that all the parcels were picked at the right time. Low yields, combined with excellent maturations, paved the way for wines of great concentration and of exceptional quality.

WINEMAKING

The hand-picked grapes are placed in small, shallow boxes and taken to the on-site winery. Manual sorting is followed by destemming and gentle crushing after which grapes are transferred to the fermentation vats. Fermentations are individually monitored, and the temperature and macerations are adjusted to maximise the potential of each fermenting batch. A period of post fermentation maceration follows to encourage the extraction of some tannin from the pips to complement those extracted from the grape skins. This adds structure and longevity to the wines.

WINEMAKERS

Charles Symington, Pedro Correia and José Daniel Soares (resident winemaker)

GRAPE VARIETIES

40% Syrah
30% Alicante Bouschet
20% Alfrocheiro
10% Old Vines (field blend)

AGING

50% of the blend aged 8 months in second and third year 400 l French oak barrels.

2,469 cases produced (6x750ml)
Bottled in March 2020

UPC: 094799230021

Suitable for Vegans.

TASTING NOTE

Aromas of pine forest with hints of resin, pine needles and a touch of mint. Also on the nose, berry fruits and black plum. Very fine textured in the mouth with delicious, bright flavors of blackberries and a slight suggestion of liquorice, perhaps from the wine's sizable Syrah component. On the mid-palate there are fine-grained tannins and some tension from the good acidity that underscores the wine's freshness and balance. The long aftertaste suggests some promising aging potential.

WINE SPECIFICATION

Alcohol: 14.3% vol
Total acidity: 5.6 g/l tartaric acid

Certified



This company meets the highest standards of social and environmental impact

Corporation