

Q U I N T A

FONTE SOUTO



## SCORES

94 Points, Wine Enthusiast, 2022 94 Points, James Suckling, 2023 93 Points, Wine & Spirits, 2022

# QUINTA DA FONTE SOUTO VINHA DO SOUTO 2018

#### THE WINE

This is the flagship wine of the estate, named after its beautiful chestnut groves (Soutos), that lie close to the vineyards from which the grapes are sourced, namely the finest parcels of Alicante Bouschet and Syrah. The lower vigor of these vines and the low yields resulted in concentrated, structured wines that also reflect the singular freshness which the altitude provides.

## VINTAGE OVERVIEW

The winter was cold and initially quite dry, but from the end of February and until June, rainfall levels were above the 30-year average, particularly during March and April. A wet spring delayed the vegetative cycle, and this was the case right up to the vintage. Summer began cool and practically without rain, but between August and October temperatures were always above average and with very little rain. These conditions were, however, a beneficial counterpoint to the low temperatures and abundant rainfall recorded during most of the winter and throughout the spring. The vintage started mid-September and the grapes showed complete and balanced maturations. We produced very elegant wines, aromatic, well-structured and balanced.

## 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. The grapes sourced from the property's finest vineyard parcels are vinified in smaller capacity fermentation vats, worked manually with cap submersion and post fermentation maceration 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 55% Syrah 45% Alicante Bouschet

#### AGING 70% of the blend aged 12 months in new French oak barrels and 30% in second year barrels (both 400L barrels).

WINE SPECIFICATION Alcohol: 14.5% vol Total acidity: 5.2 g/l tartaric acid

100 9L cases imported

UPC: 094799230045

Suitable for Vegans.

#### TASTING NOTE

Aromas of woodland are enhanced by pine and resin notes that confer great freshness and evoke the extensive forested area of Fonte Souto. Also, a lot of spice made of white pepper and clove, as well as black cherry and floral notes of roses. Dense and powerful in the mouth with notes of spice, tea, and tobacco. The impressive structure, sculpted tannins and refined acidity, foresee an excellent development in bottle. A little reserved, needing some time to reveal all its greatness.

## Certified



This company meets the highest standards of social and environmental impact