



QUINTA
DA
FONTE SOUTO



SCORES

94 Points, Wine Enthusiast, 2023

QUINTA DA FONTE SOUTO TAIFA 2020

THE WINE

This is the debut TAIFA white, which embodies the freshness, elegance and balance that derives from the vineyard's altitude, and raises the bar of the fine white wine offering that Fonte Souto is so well placed to deliver. With Taifa, we pursue even more selective harvesting, favoring specific, mature vineyard plots and bring picking forward to ensure higher acidity. The term 'Taifa' refers to the numerous Muslim principalities and kingdoms that emerged in the Iberian Peninsula during the 11th century following the decline of the Córdoba Caliphate. What is now Portalegre, integrated one of the most extensive Taifas.

VINTAGE OVERVIEW

After a precocious budbreak, the wet spring slowed the growing cycle. Above-average temperatures in June and July hampered the progression of the maturations, although the altitude of our vineyards safeguarded the grapes' balance and freshness. A cooler August put maturations back on track. This was our most challenging growing season since our debut year in 2017 and the two-month long vintage further confirmed this. There were occasions when we had to rush, and others when we had to hold back. Each variety, each parcel reacted differently to the multiple challenges and keen vigilance in the vineyard was required throughout. After such a demanding year, we were pleasantly surprised with the balance and freshness of the wines, with very expressive fruit. This has renewed our admiration and confidence in the privileged location we enjoy in the São Mamede range.

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 the grapes are transferred to a pneumatic press for a light pressing. Fermentation begins in stainless steel vats but immediately after alcoholic fermentation commences, part of the must is transferred to 500-litre French oak barrels (this higher capacity minimises the impact of the wood on the aromatic component). The must is left in contact with the lees with frequent bâtonnage (three times a week up to December, and twice a week during the spring) to encourage extraction of compounds that contribute complexity and structure and that balance very well with the good acidity provided by the altitude of the São Mamede Range.

WINEMAKERS

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

GRAPE VARIETIES

100% Arinto

AGING

100% new 500L French and Hungarian oak for 11 months.
Bottled in November 2021.

WINE SPECIFICATION

Alcohol: 14.5% vol
Total acidity: 6.3 g/l tartaric acid

48 9L cases imported

UPC: 094799230090

Suitable for Vegans.

TASTING NOTE

Seductive and charming honeysuckle, sea breeze with minerality and subtle oaky vanilla notes. Some flinty, smoky character adds a further dimension to the sumptuous aromatic range. The rich texture delivers creamy flavors of apricot and quince with some delicate traces of honey, all exquisitely balanced by a streak of citrus acidity that underscores the wine's sublime elegance and poise. The depth and sophistication hold the promise of additional refinement from continued bottle-aging.

Certified



This company meets the
highest standards of social
and environmental impact

Corporation