Robert Parker

MARK SQUIRES

Robert Parker created the original rating system with the first issue of The Wine Advocate, and it remains unchanged to this day. The Wine Advocate takes a hard, very critical look at wine. Get to know the latest scores here.

Review by Mark Squires



2019 LUA CHEIA RESERVA ESPECIAL

RobertParker.com # End of January 2022 Rating: 89 Drink: 2022-2030 Cost: \$25-27

The 2019 Reserva Especial is an old-vines field blend aged for 12 months in used French oak. It comes in at 14% alcohol. In bottle a little less than two months when tasted, this still seemed pretty nice and almost ready to roll. It shows a lot better structure and more sensual texture than the Andreza this issue, while remaining just as tasty, if not more so. It's simply a more complete wine. It's not profound, but it should make a nice restaurant wine or house pour. There were 5,700 six-packs produced. in www.robertparker.com, January 2022

2020 TYTO ALBA ROSE

Review by Mark Squires RobertParker.com # End of January 2022 Rating: 89 Drink: 2021-2024 Cost: \$19-21

The 2020 Rosé Tyto Alba Vinhas Protegidas is a dry and equal blend of Merlot and Touriga Nacional, aged for three months in well-used French barriques. It comes in very dry (0.7 grams of residual sugar and 6.1 grams of total acidity) and at 12% alcohol. Solid and textured, this elegant pink is most enjoyable for its freshness, the bright and lively feel on the finish. It always finishes very dry, but it is still filled with flavor. This should do well this coming summer. It should also hold a couple of years, at least, beyond that, if you must for some reason hold it. in www.robertparker.com, January 2022





Review by Mark Squires RobertParker.com # End of January 2022

2018 TYTO ALBA TOURIGA NACIONAL

Rating: 89 Drink: 2022-2030 Cost: \$35-36

The 2018 Touriga Nacional Tyto Alba was aged for 12 months in 20% new French oak and comes in at 14.2% alcohol. Fruity, this has strong blue fruits to which it adds the new wood. The Touriga is in full flight and unrestrained. There are some who contend this grape is too much, too exotic. This is sort of what they mean (even if I don't agree). The somewhat flamboyant flavor profile here, despite relatively modest oak statistics, is ultimately cut by the wood, even if the oak impact improves a bit with air. It also seems riper than that 14.2% would suggest. I loved the velvety texture, and the wine also adds some structure, showing a real (if restrained) backbone. The tannins are not at all hard. This will still do better with another year in the cellar. It's drinkable now, but a little more time might allow it to come together better. The question here is whether it can pull in more wood (almost certainly), while showing more nuance and less flamboyance in a year or two (that's more of a question). This ripe Touriga will have a chance, thanks to its nice structure. Give it a shot, but don't drink it today. Of course, some will no doubt love this for its high personality as it stands. in www.robertparker.com, January 2022

Review by Mark Squires

2020 TYTO ALBA WHITE

RobertParker.com # End of January 2022 Rating: 88 Drink: 2021-2025 Cost: \$19-21

The 2020 Branco Tyto Alba is a 60/40 blend of Fernão Pires and Arinto aged for three months in used French oak. It comes in at 12.55% alcohol. Round and fruit forward, this is subdued a bit in personality by the wood, but the wood is very modest this year. Thus, this comes around nicely as it airs out and warms up. Still, it is a bit short on personality, but it seems well able to hold up to foods at the table. The depth, in terms of mouthfeel, is excellent. There isn't a lot of energy. Overall, this is well done (if a bit bland) in a reasonable price range, and you'll especially like it as a food pairing. in www.robertparker.com, January 2022





Review by Mark Squires RobertParker.com # End of January 2022

Rating: 87

2019 ALBUM RESERVA RED

Drink: 2022-2026 Cost: \$19-21 The 2019 Reserva Album is a 40/30 blend of Petit Verdot and Alicante Bouschet with 20% Syrah and 10% Aragonez, just like last year's, all aged for eight months

the mid-palate, but make no mistake, this is all about the fruitiness before anything else. The Alicante (so I surmise) has a strong voice here, projecting some beefy nuances and darker flavors. There's a little grip on the finish but not much. Mostly, this is a fruit-forward wine with lots of flavor, and it can be drunk young. Very ripe, it leans well to the fruit bomb side of the ledger this year, but some will like that just fine. in www.robertparker.com, January 2022

in used French oak. It comes in at 14.8% alcohol. It seems surprisingly elegant in

Review by Mark Squires RobertParker.com # End of January 2022 Rating: 87 Drink: 2022-2028 Cost: \$19-21

2019 ANDREZA RESERVA RED

The 2019 Reserva Andreza is a blend of 50% Touriga Franca, 25% Touriga Nacional and 25% Tinta Roriz (a big increase), all aged for 10 months in a 70/30 mixture of used French oak and stainless steel. It comes in at 14% alcohol. Only about two months in bottle when tasted, this seemed largely ready to drink. The tannins are soft, and the wine is accessible while always being fruit forward. It's tasty

is a reasonable value for short to mid-term drinking.

in www.robertparker.com, January 2022

POINTS

and elegant, with just a little distinction. There's nothing profound here, but it



ROGER VOSS Take a look at the March 2022 Rating by the prestigious Portuguese wine expert Roger Voss, for the Wine Enthusiast Magazine.

March 2022



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