

NEWSLETTER

September 2022

SPOTLIGHT

2022 Wine Production Levels in Portugal

IVV - Portuguese Institute of Vine and Wines - estimates point to an overall volume of 6.7 million hectoliters in 2022/2023 campaign, which means a 9% decrease from 2021/2022.

However, the institute safeguards that, the 6.7 million hectoliters represent 2% more than the average of the last five campaigns.

The wine production forecast published in August 1st, stated that production decrease in most regions, except for Minho (+10) and Terras de Cister (+10). The regions of Douro & Porto and Lisboa represent the higher production decrease, around 20% from the previous campaign.

Overall, grapes are healthy and there is no record presence of major diseases.



MINHO

Production is expected to increase around 10% in this region. The low incidence of pests and diseases appears to be the main cause for this increase.

The climate instability may, however, condition the current forecast.



DOURO & PORTO

A decrease of production is expected in the Douro and Porto region (20%). The good sanitary conditions promoted a normal vegetative development.

The heat waves (causing sunburn) and lack of water have accentuated the stress situations that affect grape maturation and yield.



TERRAS DO DÃO

In the region of Terras do Dão production is expected to decrease by 15%.

The heat wave contributed to water stress on the vines, however the quality crop is expected to be high.



TEJO

The vines are in good health and with uniform and well-formed berries, with no significant incidence of the main diseases and pests.

However, the scalding problems that occurred interrupted the vegetative cycle of the plants. Still, the production is expected to increase by 5% in the region.



PENÍNSULA DE SETÚBAL

Production is expected to drop by 5% in the region of Península de Setúbal, due to the scorching episodes of July with temperatures above 40°C and the current severe drought situation.

No mildew or powdery mildew problems shown, the main concern being the control of the "Cigarinha Verde" pest.



ALENTEJO

In the Alentejo region, wine production is expected to decrease around 5%.

Good vegetative state of the vines, with no incidence of physiological accidents or those caused by pests or diseases, predicting quality grapes.

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 scores from end of July here.



2019 PEGOS CLAROS TINTINHA

Review by Mark Squires
RobertParker.com # End of July 2022
Rating: 95
Drink: 2022-2040
Cost: \$125-130

The 2019 Tintinha was aged for 10 months in new French oak and comes in at 13.8% alcohol. The winery says that "a careful approach in a specific very small and old parcel allowed us to identify a unique and mysterious grape variety named Tintinha." They know of no other examples of this but have used it in their Primo brand. A bit herbal and showing blackberries and plums, this is potentially a superstar. The mid-palate finesse is excellent, but this is also concentrated in fruit flavors. Then, there's the structure. This has a serious backbone but gives plenty of evidence that it can stay in balance, as the tannins are not too hard. This is their first monovarietal and the first time presented in a tasting. There's obviously no track record here, and the drinking window is certainly an educated guess, but I'm impressed.

2018 PEGOS CLAROS RESERVA

Review by Mark Squires
RobertParker.com # End of July 2022
Rating: 93
Drink: 2022-2038
Cost: \$23-25

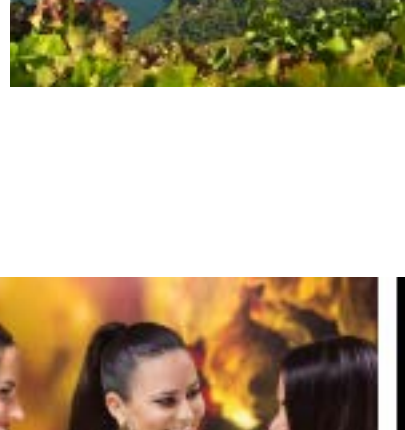
The 2018 Reserva Vinhas Velhas is all Castelão, aged for one year in well-used French oak of varying ages. It comes in at 13.8% alcohol. The "old vines" designation on the back label means 70+ years here. Tightly wound, concentrated and firm on the finish, this is superb - in this tough vintage that destroyed a lot of the winery's Castelão in a vicious heat wave. Winemaker Bernardo Cabral said certain plots were lost and the quantity reduced, but the ones in places that could survive were of high quality. It seems that way to me. This lacks for nothing in concentration, structure and flavor, although it is never a candied and overly simple wine. It does need a little more maturity to acquire some complexity. This grape ages well and the wine is built to age, so that drinking window might be conservative. It's a fine value. There were 6,766 cases.



UPCOMING WINE EVENTS

WINES OF PORTUGAL
GRAND TASTING
GHENT

SEPTEMBER 18TH, 2022
TABLE N° 17



PROWINE BRASIL
SÃO PAULO

SEPTEMBER 27-29 TH, 2022
BOOTH N° 37