

Wine Enthusiast May 2020

ROGER VOSS

Wine Enthusiast Magazine was founded in 1988 to bring essential information from the world of wine directly to consumers, with hundreds of wine reviews in every issue.

Here is a sneak of some of our wines scheduled for inclusion in the May 2020 edition. Take a look!



93
POINTS

EDITORS' CHOICE

Tyto Alba Red DOC DO TEJO 2016

"Vines planted within a national reserve have produced this powerful blend of Touriga Nacional, Touriga Franca and Alentejo Bouschet. The wine's almost black color and dense blackberry fruits are balanced by the solid tannins that are just approaching maturity. Drink from late 2020."



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POINTS

Album Reserva REGIONAL ALENTEJANO 2017

"The luscious fruit of an Alentejo wine is in full force here. The wine, with its 42% fruit Merlot, is dark colored and rich in black fruits and juicy acidity. Tannins are slowly ready to soften over the next few months. Drink from 2021."



92
POINTS

EDITORS' CHOICE

Lua Cheia em Vinhas Velhas Reserva Especial DOC DOURO 2017

"A field blend of old vines is the backbone of this dense wine. Dark fruits and solid tannins are right upfront, still young and still with a bold structure. Drink this powerful wine from 2022."



91
POINTS

Monte da Baía Reserva Regional Península de Setúbal 2017

"Produced at the Estrelinda Feitoria winery, the wine is a rich blend in which the local Castelão grape features prominently. The wood aging adds spice to the red fruits and dense texture. The wine is still young and will be better from 2021."



91
POINTS

Nostalgia Alvarinho Vinho Verde DOC 2018

"Alvarinho from the privileged region of Monção and Matagosa has given a beautifully ripe and fragrant fruit. Aging the wine on its lees has increased the density of its texture as well as its yellow and white fruit flavors. Drink the wine now!"



90
POINTS

Insurgente DOC Dão 2017

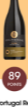
"The blend of Touriga Nacional and Alfocheiro has a finely delineated structure that derives from fruit tannins, minerality and touches of spice. Produced from old vines, the wine has a rich density, layers of blackberry fruits and a generous texture. The wine will be ready from late 2020."



89
POINTS

Secretum White DOC Douro 2018

"This wood fermented wine is pure Alvarinho, spicy as well as intensely fruity. The wine's steely edge is ready to soften into a smooth, rounded texture that will make for a fine wine from 2021."



89
POINTS

Azul Portugal Reserva DOC Douro 2016

"There is a traditional Douro blend in this wine that expresses both the firm fruits and the minerality of a Douro wine. It has some fine tannins as well as spice and toast from the wood aging that has smoothed the wine's structure. Drink now!"



87
POINTS

Maria Bonita Alvarinho Regional Minho 2018

"Crisp white also creamily textured, this is an immediately attractive, accessible wine. Its lemon and green plum flavors are fresh, lively textured and refreshing. Drink now!"

CHECK OUT THE LATEST WINE REVIEWS BY MARK SQUIRES FOR RoberParker.com



2018 TYTO ALBA CASTELÃO

Review by Mark Squires
RoberParker.com # 248 End of April 2020
Rating: 88
Drink: 2020-2028
Cost: \$35-36

The 2018 Castelão Tyto Alba was aged in 140-liter terracotta amphora for 11 months. It comes in at 12.5% alcohol. This was one in bottle a couple of months when seen, but it seemed in good form. Bright, beefy and loaded with strawberries, this is aromatically powerful and intense in flavor which is how this grape tends to show. In other years, I noted that the flavors seemed moderated by the amphora, but not this year. It is exuberant and flamboyant. The tannins underneath are ripe. Overall, it is nicely balanced in terms of structure. Those who like Grenache will have an affinity for this. You can drink this young red right now but it should also hold densely for several years. It might be better on the younger side, though I doubt that! It will reward aging. There doesn't seem to be much of an upside. There were 450 six-packs produced. In www.roberparker.com, April 2020

2016 TYTO ALBA RED

Review by Mark Squires
RoberParker.com # 248 End of April 2020
Rating: 88
Drink: 2020-2026
Cost: \$21-23

The 2016 Tyto Tyto Alba is a blend of 40% Touriga Nacional, 30% Touriga Franca and 30% Alentejo Bouschet, all aged for 12 months in used and mostly French (90%) oak. It comes in at 14% alcohol, textured with velvet and showing off ripe tannins for support, this has reasonable concentration and better complexity. The Alentejo, in particular, seems to affect this, giving it a beefy edge. There's a nice finish too. Overall, this is an impeccably balanced wine that is nicely priced. It should be great as a house pour, given the price. It drinks well now but should hold for several more years, at least. There were 15,000 six-packs produced. In www.roberparker.com, April 2020



2019 TYTO ALBA WHITE

Review by Mark Squires
RoberParker.com # 248 End of April 2020
Rating: 88
Drink: 2020-2024
Cost: \$18-20

The 2019 Branco Tyto Alba is a 70/30 blend of Bordo Fies and Arinto. This year, with the former aged for six months in used French oak, it comes in at 12.5% alcohol. Only in bottle about six weeks when tasted, this still showed pretty well. After some "wake up" time, it showed good concentration and the ability to handle its wood very well. The finish was nice too, showing some length and grip. It has enough stuffing to hold up to food. In its youth, this is very appealing. It's harder to say if it will hold same as it ages, but it should hold well for a few years. In www.roberparker.com, April 2020



2017 HERDADE DE CATAPEREIRO ESCOLHA RED

Review by Mark Squires
RoberParker.com # 248 End of April 2020
Rating: 87
Drink: 2020-2023
Cost: \$14-16

The 2017 Escolha Catapereiro is a blend of 40% Touriga Nacional and 30% each of Aragonez and Alentejo Bouschet, all aged for nine months in well-used and mostly (90%) French oak. It comes in at 14% alcohol. This is exceptionally tasty. This year soft and juicy with big bursts of blue fruit flavors. There's not a lot of structure, this wine sits on the wine's ceiling, but at the moment, it is so delicious that I feel compelled to lean up on it. Be careful, though! That fresh fruit is what this is all about. No matter how long it theoretically lasts, drink it young. It is super right now. It might go nowhere but down. The price is very nice. It should be a great picnic wine this summer. In www.roberparker.com, April 2020



2018 TYTO ALBA MERLOT

Review by Mark Squires
RoberParker.com # 248 End of April 2020
Rating: 87
Drink: 2020-2026
Cost: \$21-23

The 2018 Merlot Tyto Alba was aged for 14 months in used French oak. It comes in at 14% alcohol. Not in bottle much more than a month when tasted, this straightforward Merlot still showed well with some oak. More neutral and subtle than the winery's Castelão this issue (typical of the grapes), this might also have more modest structure. It does, however, show some as it airs out. Both are probably best if drunk on the younger side. This is easily appreciable now. There isn't a lot of power or serious depth, and there won't be a lot of reward for holding this. On the other hand, it is a lovely house pour that no-one can dislike, offered at a nice price. There were 1,111 six-packs produced. In www.roberparker.com, April 2020

NEW WINE RELEASES



Andreza Reserva Red
DOC Douro
2017



Colleja
DOC Douro
2016



Dona Helena Reserva Red
Regional Península de Setúbal
2016



Monte da Baía Red
Regional Península de Setúbal
2019



Tyto Alba Castelão
DOC Do Tejo
2018