

QUINTA DO NOVAL

The astonishing terraced vineyards of Noval, perched above the Douro and Pinhao rivers, are an infertile schist, and not soil as much as sheer rock.



Touriga Nacional 2017

Douro DOC, Portugal

ESTATE

One of the oldest port houses, Quinta do Noval is also arguably the greatest. It is unique among top port houses in that most of the ports are made from estate-grown fruit and, notably, all the vintage Noval wines are from the single Quinta do Noval vineyard. Noval is mentioned in land registries going back to 1715, and has been sold just twice in that time, once in the late 19th century, and to its present owners in 1993. Noval has, however, a reputation for being an innovative, independent producer. Noval is distinguished by dedicated focus to its vineyard and estate ports.

WINE

Intense and concentrated, with fine tannic structure, Touriga Nacional is distinguished by its delicacy, a characteristic of the Quinta do Noval style. It is the product of a strict selection from the best lots produced by the Quinta in any given year.

VINEYARD

This wine is entirely made with Touriga Nacional, from the Quinta do Noval vineyard in the heart of the Douro valley.

WINEMAKING

Variety: 60% Viosinho, 40 % Gouveio

Fermentation: Vinified in stainless steel vats for 10 days, where the entire wine undergoes malolactic fermentation.

Aging: 10 months in French oak barrels, 35% in new barrels

Alcohol: 14.0%

VINTAGE

2017 was characterized by a cold, dry winter followed by an exceptionally hot and dry spring and summer. The vines weathered the shortage of water and the high temperatures well. At the end of August, the harvest looked very promising, with excellent sanitary conditions. Harvest started much earlier than usual due to the weather: from 17 August for the white wines and 21 August for the reds and the Ports, lasting until 28 September, with high temperatures and a total absence of rain

Robert Parker
WINE ADVOCATE

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"The 2017 Touriga Nacional was aged for ten months in French oak of varying ages (only 35% new). It comes in at 14% alcohol. This was bottled about three weeks before being tasted and will be released in 2020. More generous than the other monovarietals tasted this issue from Noval, this also has the best structure while retaining the silky demeanor of the Petit Verdot. Fresh, pure and understated, this Touriga is a perfect food wine. You can approach this right away, as the tannins are not astringent." - MARK SQUIRES, 9/2019

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Wine Enthusiast

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