

LBV Port, Dow's Douro Valley, Portugal



Product code DW0217FC

Grapes

Touriga Franca,
Touriga Nacional,
Sousão, Tinta
Barroca, Tinta
Roriz.

Country Portugal

ABV% 20%

Case Size 6

Closure Style Cork

Producer

Vintage 2017

Producer

The roots of Dow's standing as a great Port house reach back over 200 years. Throughout the 19th and 20th centuries, Dow's Vintage Ports have been landmark wines in virtually every great year, consistently setting the standard amongst all Port houses. Vintage Ports such as the remarkable Dow 1896, the 1927, 1945 1955, 1963 and so on until the Dow 1994 are all legends in the history of this great wine. These Ports are still magnificent today, even when 50 or 100 years old. Few wines can claim this quality and pedigree. In 1912, Andrew Symington became a partner in Dow's and today five members of the family own and work in the company: they personally manage all aspects of winemaking from the vineyard to the final bottling.

Tasting Notes

Gorgeous aromas of blackcurrant and liquorice, with some traces of mint in the background. The compact structure asserts itself through the full-bodied feel and the wild berry flavours are livened by the focus and tension provided by fine acidity. Peppery tannins season and lift the flavours, bringing the fruit to life and Dow's hallmark drier finish polishes and balances the wine.

Viticulture

2017 was the second driest year on record in the Douro and the hottest of the last four decades. Between March and September, the cumulative rainfall deficit averaged 50%. The dry, mild winter was followed by a hot spring, with seasonal temperatures 2.6°C above the average. However, the resilient regional grape varieties adjusted early on to the exceptionally dry conditions that prevailed from the outset of the year. Unsurprisingly, the precocity of the year's vegetative cycle resulted in the earliest vintage ever recorded; picking starting on September 3rd. The heat abated a little during September, especially nocturnal temperatures, a highly beneficial



situation reflected in the very high quality of the grapes received in the winery. The outcome of the vintage surpassed all expectations.

Winemaking

This 2017 Late Bottled Vintage (LBV) shares the same provenance with Dow's legendary Vintage Ports, namely the Quinta do Bomfim and Quinta da Senhora da Ribeira vineyards, which have been owned by Dow's since the late 19th century. Five generations of Symington family winemakers have tended these vineyards, deriving from them Dow's distinctive wine profile, characterised by intense, structured wines with fresh black fruit flavours, peppery tannins and a hallmark drier style. The grapes from both properties were trodden in the on-site modern lagares, which equip the Quinta do Bomfim and Quinta da Senhora da Ribeira wineries.