

Quinta do Ataíde Douro Red, Quinta do Ataíde Douro Valley, Portugal



Product code	DW5oZZRC
Grapes	
Country	PORTUGAL
ABV%	14.5
Case Size	6
Closure Style	Cork
Producer	Dow's / Symington Family Estates
Vintage	2018



Organic



Vegan



Vegetarian



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

Winemaking

"Winemaking: The Ataíde grapes are handpicked into small boxes to avoid crushing during transportation to the winery. On arrival, the bunches are hand sorted and then gently destemmed, after which the berries are placed into a small container that is lifted to the top of the fermentation tank, thus avoiding any form of pumping. Only then are the berries crushed as they fall into the tank. Fermentations are monitored individually and temperatures and maceration procedures; plunging, pumping over and delestage, are adjusted in accordance with each fermenting tank in order to maximize the grapes potential. Once alcoholic fermentation is concluded, post-fermentation macerations are employed so as to extract mature, soft tannins from the pips. The Year: Although 2018 started off very dry, with the soils parched by the previous year's rainfall deficit, the spring heralded abundant rain with the months between March and June all recording above-average precipitation. Soil water reserves were amply replenished, a good position to be in for the vines'

growing and ripening cycles. The wet, cool spring and generally unsettled atmospheric conditions continued into the summer and resulted in a diminishing of the crop size. Inevitably, the growth cycle of the vine was delayed by a few weeks, but a hot and dry August put maturations back on track. Climatic conditions in early September favoured balanced ripening of the berries with good levels of acidity that are reflected in the wine's balance. Yields were very low, but that favoured the high quality that the wines reveal."

Awards

"01/11/2023 - Wine Enthusiast, Roger Voss, 92 points -
<https://www.wineenthusiast.com/buying-guide/symington-family-wines-2018-quinta-da-ataide-red-douro/>?

2024 - Concurso de Vinhos de Portugal, Silver Medal,
<https://www.concursovinhosdeportugal.pt/premiados?prod=&col=&c>

06/2024 - Grandes Escolhas, 16.5 / 100 points."