



Lua Cheia em Vinhas Velhas Branco 2016 , DOC Douro

Date tasted: 15 February 2017

Reviewer: Julia Harding

Published: 15 February 2017

Score: 15

Drink: 2017 - 2018

Old vines field blend. 12 hours' maceration, fermented with indigenous yeasts. TA 5.4 g/l, pH 3.25.

Like the rosé just tastes, this has some reminders of the fermentation vat (pear drops) but also lively herbal citrus notes. Crisp acidity without quite enough depth of fruit so that it is a bit watery on the palate. Tastes bone dry but doesn't have the intensity I would expect from Douro old vines.



Lua Cheia em Vinhas Velhas Reserva Branco 2015, DOC Douro

Date tasted: 15 February 2017

Reviewer: Julia Harding

Published: 15 February 2017

Score: 16

Drink: 2017 - 2020

The grapes are destemmed and crushed, followed by 12 hours pre-fermentation maceration and static clarification for 48 hours. Fermentation in stainless steel tank at controlled temperature until 3/4 of the sugar had been depleted by the yeast. Lees contact and stirring. 8 months in French oak. RS 4.8 g/l, TA 6.33 g/l, pH 3.04.

Quite a definite oaky aroma at first, with some creamy/nutty notes from the lees. Rich and rounded on the palate, probably thanks to the residual sugar, but I can see they needed some sweetness to balance the high acidity. The fruit combines grainy pear and tart citrus. There's some Douro richness and minerality here but i don't think this is the best vintage of this wine I have tasted and it finishes sweet/sour with a bit of heat from the alcohol. Maybe it will get more interesting with another year or so in bottle.



Lua Cheia em Vinhas Velhas Branco 2016 , DOC Douro

Date tasted: 15 February 2017

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Drink: 2017 - 2018

Old vines field blend. 12 hours' maceration. Fermented with indigenous yeasts. TA 5.31 g/l, pH 3.33.

Very pale pink, like a Provençal rosé. Still smells a little of the fermentation tank - pear drops. Cool fresh and red-fruited on the palate, peachy and fresh. And it's persistent. Straightforward and easy drinking, with surprising persistence.