



Tyto alba Merlot 2012, DOC Do Tejo

Date tasted: 4 July 2015

Reviewer: Julia Harding

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Score: 16

Drink: 2014-2017

Fermented in small lagares and aged 12 months in French and US oak. Colour of black cherries. Has both fruit and oak sweetness on the nose - plum and a hint of vanilla plus a peppery freshness. Smooth and very sweet tasting, but sweet from the fruit and not from residual sugar. The couple of years in bottle has given this greater complexity and a very slight meaty character so it is not just simple Merlot fruit. Definite oak spice on the finish, smooth, spicy aftertaste. Tannins are smoothed but still present. Just enough freshness. Not sure I would know this is Portuguese if I tasted it blind but it has plenty of flavour and character.