



## 2015 Branco Reserva Lua Cheia em Vinhas Velhas DOC Douro

Review by Mark Squires

*RobertParker.com* # 230 April 2017

Rating: 89

Drink: 2017-2021

Cost: \$20-22

The 2015 Branco Reserva is a field blend from old vines aged for eight months in a mixture of second and third-use French oak. It comes in at 13.5% alcohol. Very refined and sophisticated, this integrates its wood beautifully and lingers delicately, but persistently. Fresh, graceful and precise, this is a beautiful Reserva; it is dry, serious and understated, yet subtly concentrated and with fine purity of fruit. Could it be the best yet in this bottling? It just might be. Don't expect sweet, sappy or rich. But if you prefer finesse, this is for you. An hour later, as it crept up near 60 degrees Fahrenheit, it was perhaps better. I'm not sure sure that this will develop or perform at this level for several more years—the only thing that makes me be a bit conservative in scoring just now—but you might like it better than the score suggests at the moment. It should be glorious this summer. There were 1,058 cases produced.