



2021 Maria Papoila Lour./Alvarinho Vinho Verde DOC

Review by Mark Squires

RobertParker.com # End of April 2022

Rating: 89+

Drink: 2022 - 2027

Cost: \$16-18

The 2021 Maria Papoila Loureiro & Alvarinho is a 70/30 blend of Loureiro and Alvarinho, with 4.9 grams per liter of residual sugar, 7.1 of total acidity and 11.9% alcohol. The acidity gobbles up the modest sugar here, the structure taking control and creating some tension on the finish. The aromatics are powerful too, with the Loureiro showing off its personality in particular. This is a fine vintage for this brand, one that didn't originally impress me when the brand debuted. Granting that there is no vertical comparison here, this seems like the best so far. It made me wonder how it would age and if it might develop, questions I don't usually ask here, but let's be a little conservative on all fronts for the moment. Besides, I suspect that once people taste this, no one will have any left to retaste four or five years later. This brand is taking some steps forward.