



2017 Pegos Claros Rose Castelão

Review by Mark Squires

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Rating: 89

Cost: \$12-14

The 2017 Rosé Castelão Vinhas Velhas is very dry and comes in at 13% alcohol. It was partly (20%) oak aged, for four months in well-used French oak, the rest in stainless steel. The "old vines" references the winery's old vineyard at 90+ years. This is the same wine as last year's Rosé, but the labeling has just become a little clearer. When I talk about this being an exuberant and flamboyant grape, here's another example. The nose is perfumed and the flavor profile has a strong tendency to strawberries. That said, this is also beautifully concentrated for this price level, which balances the exuberance very well. Deep and lush, the texture likely affected by the wood, it has fine depth and a round, rich feel. It doesn't have a lot of verve. It is, overall, a fine red-wine substitute for the summer, dry but a long way from austere.