



2017 Pegos Claros Blanc de Noirs Castelão

Review by Mark Squires

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Rating: 90

Drink: 2018 - 2024

Cost: \$28

The 2017 Blanc de Noirs Castelão Vinhas Velhas was partly (20%, the rest in stainless steel) aged for four months in new French oak and comes in at 12.5% alcohol. Very dry, this is a white with plenty of stuffing too, a fine choice to pair with foods. The Castelão grape, typically distinctive and flavorful, gives this that tinge of something different, even though the flamboyant red-fruit nuances are subdued in this white (blanc de noir) version. This fills the mouth and tastes great, but it is also serious. How will it age? It hasn't got a lot of verve, but it is beautifully balanced. Let's start here and be a bit conservative. It may well improve.