



2014 Lua Cheia Em Vinhas Velhas Codega Do Larinho Andreza
A Codega do Larinho Dry White Table wine from Douro, Portugal

Review by Mark Squires

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Rating: 90

Drink: 2015-2018

Cost: \$15-18

The 2014 Códéga do Larinho Andreza is unoaked, dry and comes in at 12% alcohol. This is both a lovely wine and a terrific value, one of those overachievers Portugal tends to pump out. Fresh, crisp and invigorating in its youth, this has a touch of green that some will like more than others. However, the herbaceousness is very controlled and works very well. It's not exactly Sauvignon Blanc. For its intended purpose of easy, warm-weather drinking, it is just about perfect, with the acidity and aromatics equally refreshing, the alcohol low and the finish dry and tasty. It is solid enough in the mid-palate and there is tension on the finish, at least now and in its youth. At the moment, it is simply gorgeous and a big winner. Now, it's not so clear how long it stays at peak, admittedly. I still feel compelled to lean up, at least for now. Drink it young and fresh, no matter how long it theoretically lasts.

Lua Cheia produces an array of whites which often fly under the radar and overachieve at great price points. They are well worth a look, for this group and others.