



2014 Companhia Das Lezirias Branco Tyto Alba

A Proprietary Blend Dry White Table wine from Tejo, Portugal

Review by Mark Squires

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Rating: 88

Drink: 2015-2017

Cost: \$18

The 2014 Branco "Tyto Alba" is mostly Fernão Pires, with 10% Verdelho, all aged for 2 months in new French oak. It comes in at 13.5% alcohol. Showing some substance and a reasonable degree of concentration--not that anyone will take this for the most concentrated white--this has a soft and caressing mouthfeel and a tasty finish. Not overly intense or crisp, it also has a touch of cream on the texture in its youth. That will improve with time as this really didn't see much oak. Overall, it drinks well in a middle of the road fashion, but it is fair to note that I began to appreciate its gentle, understated approach more and more as it aired out. It became completely appealing--a wine to drink, not to obsess over. It should be a great wine to sip on the porch all by itself this summer. Drink it on the younger side for best results.