

Press Info

Quinta de Ventozelo

**THE EXCELLENCE OF THE
DOURO**

QUINTA DE VENTOZELO

Since 1999, Quinta de Ventozelo belongs to the Spanish group Proinsa. The Quinta produces Port and Douro wines.



The property is located in the town of São João da Pesqueira, in the Upper Corgo, an ideal place in the heart of the Demarcated Region of the Douro, on the left bank of the river, overlooking the Pinhão Valley.



A SUCCESSFUL PAST

Quinta de Ventozelo is one of the oldest quintas in the region, as well as one of the biggest and best located. Until the property was bought by Proinsa, it was producing Port wine in bulk for big shippers from Vila Nova de Gaia. In the past, many of the international award-winning Port wines had been made from grapes grown in Quinta de Ventozelo.

Such a successful past led the current owners to produce wines under their own brand name. Quinta de Ventozelo is, therefore, new in terms of marketing, but old in tradition and success.

The Quinta is very old; in its files there are documents describing its extension as far back as 1806. The map of the Baron of Forrester, dating back to 1848, also refers to Quinta de Ventozelo. It describes a village called Ventozelo, located in the area currently occupied by the property, whose inhabitants paid the royal tributes with wine, due to its well-known quality.

The origins of the Quinta are linked to the labour of the Cistercian monks and to their important contribution to the organization and the cultivation of the land in the Douro at the beginning of the Portuguese nation. During the Middle Ages, and in parallel to their spiritual action, the Cistercian monasteries of the Southern Douro contributed to the valorization of the lands thanks to their agricultural and wine production. Later on, in the 16th century, the property was owned by the group Pazo de Lamego, and after that, it belonged to the Companhia Vitícola Vinícola e Agrícola de Ventozelo, until it was acquired by the current owners.

A UNIQUE PROPERTY

The property has an area of more than 600 Ha. (1480 acres) along more than 1 mile of Douro river frontage. The vineyard area covers 200 Ha., all of it classified with the letter "A" (highest ranking). About 10 Ha. are covered with hundred-year-old vines, of premium quality, which are used mainly to produce Vintage Port and Premium DOC wines. The area is naturally protected by mountains and the microclimate is characterized by very hot summers and severe winters. The vast area of the Quinta allows the planting of different grape varieties according to the sun exposure levels. Some believe it is a secret: for us it is simply ancestral wisdom, which takes into account different grape varieties, the quality of the soil and sun exposure levels. The following are the grape varieties planted in the Quinta:

17.6% Tinta Roriz	5% Tinto Cão
16.2% Touriga Franca	5% Old Vines
11.1% Tinta Barroca	4.6% Sousão
9.1% Touriga Nacional	25.1% Other varieties (Tinta Francisca, Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot, Syrah...)
6.3% Tinta Amarela	

The old vines in the Quinta de Ventozelo are mainly planted in rows of terraces with retaining stone walls, and the new ones are either in terraces or in vertical lines. A €5-million investment is being carried out in the planted area and in the mechanization of the production.



PRODUCTION CENTRE

The vinification of the Port wine still takes place in our traditional *lagares* (tanks made of stone) where grapes are foot crushed, providing Quinta de Ventozelo with a wide range of quality wines, from which the winemakers will select the wine to be proposed as Vintage.



The DOC wine is also vinified in our own production centre of Adega da Cruz, which we are determined to make the best and most modern of the entire Douro region. Currently there are 11 25.000-litre stainless steel tanks, with controlled temperature, allowing us to optimize the quality of the wine and to operate in perfect hygienic conditions.

We are redesigning the vinification centre to increase the production capacity while guaranteeing the same quality levels: there will be an integrated centre with two vinification plants; a traditional one to produce Port wine and a modern one to produce still wine.

The investments in the production centre are oriented towards the concept of excellence. Said concept defines Quinta de Ventozelo's endless search for perfection.



ANNUAL PRODUCTION

The annual production is currently of 1.000.000 bottles of DOC wine and 500.000 of Port wine. The best grapes are used to produce our Vintage Port, which we have declared every year since 1998, an achievement very few have managed.

1998 Vintage Port : 20.000 bottles (750 ml)

1999 Vintage Port: 18.000 bottles (750 ml); 10.000 (375 ml)

2000 Vintage Port: 50.000 bottles (750 ml); 20.000 (375 ml)

2001 Vintage Port: 10.000 bottles (750 ml); 10.000 (375 ml)

2002 Vintage Port: 10.000 bottles (750 ml); 10.000 (375 ml)

2003 Vintage Port: 10.000 bottles (750 ml); 10.000 (375 ml)

2004 Vintage Port: 10.000 bottles (750 ml); 5.000 (375 ml)

2005 Vintage Port: 10.000 bottles (750 ml); 10.000 (375 ml)

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT



A piece of land of 10 hectares is used to multiply and improve the grape varieties, a pioneering experience directed jointly with the *Universidade de Trás-os-Montes*, using the latest technologies in the areas of phyto-genetics and cloning.

BRANDING

Quinta de Ventozelo is a brand to be viewed in the highest segment position, with top quality products, attractive packaging and labelling.

Other brands are being created to suit our customer's needs for specific market segments or on an exclusive basis to be developed by our distributors.

The following chart summarizes the different brands and segments:

	Port		DOC		
Brands	Especial Categories	Regular Categories	Premium	Economic	Basic
Own	QV 	Vinzelo 	QV 	Cister 	Vinzelo 
Exclusive		Cornilheiras			Tonal
Private	Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes

BRAND IMAGE

João Machado, a famous Portuguese sculptor whose works have been distinguished internationally, designs the labels for our wines.

QUINTA DE VENTOZELO



OUR PRODUCTS

Port wines, **Quinta de Ventozelo:**

Special categories

Vintage

10 and 20 years old Tawny

Late Bottled Vintage

Tawny Reserva

Ruby Reserva

Port wines, **Vinzelo:**

Categories without especial designation

Ruby

Tawny

White

Douro DOC wines, **Quinta de Ventozelo**

Red wine

Red wine – Reserva

Red wine – Touriga Nacional

Red wine – Touriga Franca

Red wine – Tinta Roriz

Douro DOC wines, **Cister da Ribeira:**

Red wine

White wine

Douro DOC wines, **Vinzelo:**

Red wine

Rosé wine

CONTACTS

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Graça Lencastre

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Winemakers

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