



# Niepoort Vertente 2012

Vertente is made from grapes from the 25 year old vineyards of Quinta de Nápoles and old vines planted on the slopes of the river Pinhão, where Touriga Franca and Tinta Roriz are predominant. The old vines contribute to the elegance of this wine, while the 25 year old vines give it youth. It is a wine that finds a unique balance between concentration, fruit, complexity and elegance, creating an excellent 2012 red. Made to be consumed young, it has great ageing potential.

## VINIFICATION

2012 was marked by the lack of rain in the Douro region. As a result, the growing cycle began, on average, 15 days later than in previous years. Furthermore, the winter of 2012 was marked by low temperatures, enabling the vegetation to grow in an appropriate and balanced way. The ripening period was not as warm as usual and the cooler temperatures allowed the grapes to achieve good total acidity, a key factor for a fresh and balanced taste.

The harvest took place in September. After selection at the vine, a second selection on the sorting table took place. 70% of the wine fermented in stainless steel wine presses, with an automatic pressing system and the remaining 30% fermented in cone-shaped stainless steel vats. The wine aged for 18 months in French oak barrels where malolactic fermentation took place.

## TASTING NOTES

In 2012, Vertente has a pretty ruby red colour, of medium concentration. A very fresh aroma and good complexity, marked by a mineral profile. Notes of black fruit, dark chocolate and spices. Very elegant on the palate with a good structure, without being heavy. Fine and well integrated tannins, it is a wine full of youth, with good acidity and fresh fruit. A long and elegant finish. Ideal to be drunk now, but thanks to its balance, it will have a long life in the bottle.

## TECHNICAL INFORMATION

PRODUCER Niepoort (Vinhos) S.A.		REGION Douro	SOIL TYPE Schist
VINEYARDS Quinta de Nápoles and Vale do Pinhão		AVERAGE VINE AGE	25 to 60 years
GRAPE VARIETIES Tinta Amarela, Touriga Franca and others		VINES PER HA	4000-6500
PRUNING METHOD Guyot and Royat		ALT. FROM SEA LEVEL	150-500
HARVEST METHOD Hand picked		HARVEST PERIOD	September
MALOLACTIC Barrels		FERMENTATION	Stainless steel vats
BOTTLED		May 2014	
AGEING	18 months in French oak barrels (228 L)	DRY EXTRACT	25.8
		RESIDUAL SUGAR (G/DM <sup>3</sup> )	0.5
		ALCOHOL (%)	13.65
PH	3.56	TOTAL ACIDITY (G/DM <sup>3</sup> )	5.2
		VOLATILE ACIDITY (G/DM <sup>3</sup> )	0.7
		FREE SO <sub>2</sub> AT BOTTLING (MG/DM <sup>3</sup> )	27
		TOTAL SO <sub>2</sub> (MG/DM <sup>3</sup> )	94
		VOLUMIC MASS (G/CM <sup>3</sup> )	0.9906
		PRODUCTION	25.872 bottles
FOOD SUGGESTIONS Roast beef (with yorkshire pudding), tradicional portuguese duck rice, tradicional codfish dishes, Magré de Canard. Cheese suggestions: Camembert, Sainte Albré, Brie.			

