



TANNERS
WINE MERCHANTS

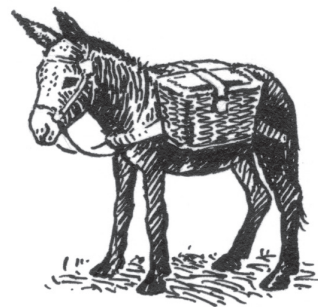
Autumn 2022 En Primeur Offer

Douro 2019/2020/2021



Douro 2019/20/21

It's been three years since we were last able to visit the Douro, but finally this spring we caught up with many of our favourite producers. Like Tanners, winemakers were keen to re-engage and with an infectious enthusiasm, talk us through their latest release of reds and their increasingly exciting range of white wines. Offering wines of value and prestige in equal measure, the Douro continues to provide something for everyone!



THE BIG PICTURE

After such a hiatus, it's worth us stepping back and reminding ourselves a little of what makes the Douro such a unique wine growing region. Ranging from the classic, steep, terraced, western vineyards of the Baixo Corgo and central Cima Corgo to the higher altitude, northern vineyards of the Douro Superior, this ancient wine region is recognised for its outstanding natural beauty and historic association with viticulture. The region is increasingly a 'must see' for wine tourists, keen to take in the wonderful scenery and sample the multitude of native grape varieties which go into the production of its still and fortified wines.

Whilst the landscape is spectacular to view, the same environment makes it a very challenging region in which to produce wine. Its scarily steep slopes, loose schist and slate soils make mechanized harvesting an impossibility. As a result, there is a huge reliance on labour to prune and hand-harvest vines whilst also maintaining the emblematic stone wall terraces. Given the region can experience summer temperatures of over 40°C, this can be back-breaking, punishing work. Add into the mix the unique complications brought on by social distancing restrictions during the relatively recent pandemic 2020 vintage, it's a tribute to the perseverance and hard work of the producers and their teams that harvesting and bottling took place at all.

THE WINES

Spanning three vintages – 2019, 2020 and 2021 – this offer comprises a specially selected range of wines sourced from trusted producers, and a new find (Colinas do Douro), showcasing the Douro's wealth of attractive wine styles.

The Douro has built up a reputation for providing sumptuous, fuller-bodied reds and producers did not disappoint. Serving up signature blue and black fruited, spice laden reds of impressive depth and ageing potential, these are quintessentially Douro. Don't be fooled into thinking they're all power and no finesse – the best offer up youthful acidity and charm which

leave you returning for a top up! Colinas do Douro, are a stone's throw away from the Spanish border, in the wild and rugged far southeast of the Douro demarcated region. The wines shone and so have made into our offer for the first time.

In addition to the reds, we are also offering a small number of whites. Vibrant, youthful and not short on complexity if you haven't sampled a cool glass of Douro white yet, you're missing out. Sourced from higher altitude vineyards, these are fresh and elegant, made from a heady blend of grapes, such as Rabigato, Viosinho and Arinto.

“spice laden reds of impressive depth and ageing potential”

THE CONDITIONS

2019 Little rain fell in the winter and spring, and as the temperature increased, the lack of rain persisted into the summer. However, the cooler than average summer and some late rains in August and September saved the day, allowing a sizeable yield and good levels of acidity and sugar.

2020 The wetter than average winter and spring turned out to be a blessing as the region experienced some of the highest ever recorded summer temperatures. Like 2019, some late August rainfall assisted bringing on the ripening whilst also saving the harvest from the worst effects of scorching. Despite the heat, Sandra Tavares of Wine & Soul felt, the '2020 has a fresh and vibrant quality of wild berries'. Overall, the resulting yield was small and the wines very concentrated, intense, and well-structured.

2021 Given the previous two vintages were notable for their extreme heat, the 2021 growing season was a little less intense. Despite some hail and thunderstorms, the harvest overall led Sandra to comment, '2021 is a beautiful vintage. The ripening season was soft giving us time to plan and wait'.



“Few countries can rival Portugal for individuality and the sheer number and variety of its indigenous grapes. And, these days, its whites are just as appealing as traditional reds.”

Fiona Beckett, The Guardian, June 2022

En Primeur:

What does it mean?

All the 2020 wines in this offer are offered ‘En Primeur Lying Abroad’. This means that you pay for the wine itself when you place your order and the duty (currently £2.98 ex VAT per 75cl bottle) and VAT at the prevailing rates on the whole at the time of shipment and any other applicable tariffs. We anticipate shipping these wines in 2023.

Storage Wines

Wines purchased En Primeur can be stored, by the case, in our own bonded Private Customer Reserves.

More Information

For advice, please ring the Fine Wine Team: Graham, Robin, Aaran or Aiden on 01743 234455.

Colinas do Douro

Almendra



Entrance to Colinas do Douro vineyards

Situated in the far southeast of the Douro demarcated region, the vineyards of Colinas do Douro are a stone throw away from the Spanish border. This very large estate is the combination of four Quintas, providing over 476ha of largely north facing vineyards at an average 600 metres in altitude. In contrast to the picture postcard terraced slopes of the central Douro, the location is wild and rugged, as we can testify having experienced a thrilling off-road jeep ride on our tour of the estate! Intriguingly, the area also encompasses a nature reserve, playing host to bats, native small birds and the stunning endangered Egyptian vulture.

Heading up the wine side is the charismatic Marta Galamba, a terrific winemaker with an innate feel for getting the very best from her vines. Of the many wines we sampled from this estate, we’ve chosen to list the Reserva Tinto and Rabigato, with the Reserva tinto providing exuberant ripe black fruit notes, spice and that all important freshness, and the Rabigato bursting with apple peel, citrus, pink grapefruit and refreshing acidity. Both look certain to become firm favourites. They are currently building a new winery with the aim of being carbon neutral by 2023.

Red

Colinas do Douro Reserva Tinto 2020	DPRI0120	6bts	£48
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Touriga Nacional, Touriga Franca, Tinto Cão, Tinta Roriz, and Sousão, 12 months in French oak barriques. An expressive wood-framed nose with super lift and freshness, and neatly defined dark fruit aromas of cassis and black olive. Shows some good structure on the palate, and lovely acidity, while the dark fruit theme continues with flavours of ripe blackberry, a touch of liquorice, and redder highlights. 2-7 years.

White

Colinas do Douro Reserva Rabigato 2021	DPW0572I	6bts	£43.50
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We also tasted this white back at HQ with the rest of the team and it got lots of support. A pure varietal Rabigato with a good dose of oak, offering up big, bright notes of grapefruit and white flowers, with a touch of honey and some new wood toast. Notably lively and tangy on the palate with some texture, a salty intensity, and some background spice. Good fun! 0-3 years.

Duorum

Vila de Nova Foz Côa



With its spectacular panoramic views of the river and beyond, the Duorum estate is one of the most wonderfully scenic locations to hold a tasting and, as expected, the beautiful vista was matched by delicious wines (including our Tanners Douro!) Duorum is a joint venture between João-Portugal Ramos of the Alentejo and José Maria Soares Franco, ex Barca Velha. The vines are in two sites

in the Douro: in the Cima Corgo (middle Douro) and the Alto Douro, where there is a large investment in a winery and plantings at the beautifully situated Castelo Melhor, perched above a remote section of the Douro. José-Luis Moreira da Silva is the oenologist and João Perry Vidal is the viticulturist.

Reds

Duorum Colheita Tinto 2020	DPR05920	6bts	£45
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40% each Touriga Franca and Nacional, 20% Tinta Roriz (and maybe a little field blend too), around 30% matured in new French wood for 12 months. Showed some real depth on the nose, dark floral perfume, classic Touriga Nacional black pepper, and enticing gummy mint and blackberry. There is a fine 2020 freshness throughout the palate, which has a dense and sweet attack, ahead of an energetic, spicy, and saline finish. 2-7 years.

Duorum Reserva Tinto 2019	DPRI0219	6bts	£141
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A field blend, mainly from the slopes and old vines, based on Touriga Franca and Nacional, and raised in a mixture of new and old French oak for 18 months. The oak is evident right now, bringing some attractive vanilla and nuttiness to sweet, ripe blueberry and fresh cassis fruit. Obvious depth and volume, very full, and wonderfully pure, with high levels of acidity, plentiful tannins, lots of chalky grip, some toast and coffee, and the whole finesses towards a long and sappy finish. This is serious juice! 5-15 years.

White

Duorum Colheita Branco 2021	DPW03821	6bts	£45
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Gouveio, Boal (Semillon!), Rabigato, Arinto and Códaga, part matured in old French oak for six months. This 2021 shows some restraint and elegance on the nose, lovely freshness and delicate herby notes of fennel and pineapple. The palate offers a concentrated attack and a mellow core, with a warmer fruit character, a little supporting wood, salty minerals and lip-smacking acidity. 0-5 years.

Wine & Soul

Vale de Mendiz



Sandra Tavares and Graham Mason at Pintas

Wine & Soul is the joint project of husband and wife Jorge Serôdio Borges and Sandra Tavares da Silva (pictured above with Graham Mason). They bought an old port warehouse in the Vale de Mendiz in the heart of the beautiful Pinhão valley in 2003. The project is called Pintas, after their dog, a Pointer. The estate is 6 hectares of which only 2.5ha are

under vine, there is also an olive grove. The average age of the vines is over 70 years and is planted with over 30 different varieties. The wine making is traditional but carefully done as you would expect from a couple that are both qualified oenologists. They produce red, white and port wines.

White

Manoella Branco 2021

DPW05821 6bts £57

A field blend leaning on Gouveio from 55+ year old vines grown in granite soils close to the Spanish border at 600m, and wholly matured in tank with eight months on the lees. Pale bright gold, with an attractive focused floral quality some soft ripe white fruits and a fresh, pure and citrusy frame. The palate has good mineral expression, a salty tang and very good intensity, and pithy citrusy flavours. Drink young to best enjoy the vibrancy! 0-3 years.

Reds

Manoella Tinto 2020

DPR06720 6bts £57

60% Touriga Nacional, 25% Touriga Franca, 10% Tinta Roriz, and 5% Tinta Francisca, wholly sourced from the 39-year-old Manoella vineyards. Foot-trodden in stone lagares and aged for 16 months in old French oak barrels. A charming nose with a pleasing soft and creamy quality of dark berry fruits. The palate shows excellent structure, with a fat core, lovely acidity, and grainy, lightly chewy tannins. Very juicy with a fine mineral vein, and persistent dark berry and floral flavours which feel very Douro. 2-9 years.

Pintas Character 2020

DPR01720 6bts £102

An old vine field blend of up to 30 varieties from the Manoella estate, and some fruit from the Pintas plot, all foot-trodden and matured in a mix of French barrels for 18 months. A fresh-framed nose, offering a great expressive Douro perfume, plenty of wood, and a sweet violet note. The palate too is fresh and nicely defined, persistently fragrant while impeccably clean and balanced. This is mineral, subtly spicy, and offers tons of fresh, floral-tinged dark berry fruits on the long, fine finish. Bravo! 3-9+ years.

Pintas 2020

DPR02920 3bts £220.50

Pintas is a special old vine plot within the Manoella vineyard, named after their old Pointer 'Spot', containing more than 40 varieties and around 90 years old. Again, all foot-trodden and matured for 20 months in a mix of French oak barrels. This is a big, generous and deeply perfumed nose, offering a tempting sweetness, layers of fruit, flowers, and well-integrated wood with a little vapour. The tannins are notably easy, very fine and well-knit, the mineral character is stonier, there is a stimulating spiciness, gorgeous fruit and genuine vitality. Harmonious, silky, finely structured, long and utterly delicious! 5-20 years.

Quinta Vale D. Maria

Sarzedinho



Quinta Vale D. Maria is situated in the Vale do Rio Torto in the Cima Corgo, and dates back to 1868, although Cristiano Van Zeller’s purchase of the property from his wife’s family in 1996 is really where the story begins. For years the vineyards had been leased out, but now great work has been done to map and assess the vineyards, which contain fabulously old vines and some 40+ different varietals! In 2017, QVDM merged with family owned Aveleda (Cristiano’s cousins) – Portugal’s largest producer

and exporter of Vinho Verde. They also own the 42ha estate of Quinta Vale do Sabor, further north on the banks of the Sabor river in the Douro Superior, and this now falls under the Vale D. Maria branding but is managed separately. Cristiano has now left the estate to follow his own project (see van Zeller & Co. later). QVDM remains a leading Douro estate, producing impressive and thrilling wines and the Sabor vineyards will be fascinating to follow.

Whites

Vale D. Maria Douro Superior Branco 2021	DPW0592I	6bts	£45
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Based on Rabigato, Viosinho, and Arinto, which spent 6-9 months in oak, offering up a very fresh and concentrated feel, with pithy lime over lemon citrus, some wild herb, and hints of honeysuckle and pineapple. Super acidity, lots of tang and zip and a touch of warmth at the core. Balance, very clean with good lift and some texture. This was a great start to our trip! 0-3 years.

Vale D. Maria Vinhas do Sabor Branco 2021	DPW0602I	6bts	£87
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A very old vineyard source here featuring the rare Donzelinho and Gouveio, matured in 500L oak barrels for 12-14 months. An attractive nose, fragrant and just a touch softer than the Superior bottling, offering notes of pineapple, pear, peach and white flowers. Fresh, with good breadth, some oily richness, and ripe, fat yellow fruits that lead to softly speckled spice, nut, and toasty wood. Very good persistence, and we really liked the complex oak character on the finish. 0-5 years.

Reds

Vale D. Maria Douro Superior Tinto 2020	DPRI0320	6bts	£45
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Produced from the estates younger vines (less than 15 years), matured for 6-9 months in a mix of oak barrels and tank. Great aromatic nose, lots of bloom and herby cistus, excellent fruit and floral quality, which follows on to the palate. Rounded, with a little green streak, very good acidity and some oak character. Full side of medium-bodied, with good volume and an easy texture, ripe tannins, and great fruit levels. 0-5 years.

Vale D. Maria Vinhas do Sabor Tinto 2020	DPRI0420	6bts	£87
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Field blend from 30+ year old vines, based on Touriga Nacional, Tinta Roriz, and Touriga Franca. Super aromatic quality, lots of blueberry, vanilla, milk chocolate, and soft, ripe, darker fruits. Concentrated and creamy, with a host of baking spices, lovely acidity, and a little chewy grip. 2-9 years.

Vale D. Maria 2019	DPR01319	6bts	£259.50
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A true field blend of 41 varieties, vines of more than 60 years of age and a style that has evolved over years to become impressively elegant and refined. The nose shows real poise, leading with raspberry fruit before focusing to something darker, there is a persistent, easy ripe and mellow perfume of garrigue herb and brambles, exotic woods and a touch of vanilla. The palate is full offering layers of perfumed flavours, soft red fruits, well-integrated wood and plentiful, ripe, lightly chalky tannins. A very smart, elegantly structured QVDM that offers wonderful balance and plenty of cellaring potential. 3-15+ years.

Vale D. Maria Vinha do Rio 2019	DPR08219	3bts	£273
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From a tiny 80-year-old vineyard close to the River Torto, just below Quinta Vale D. Maria, Vinha do Rio is a field blend of 29 different varieties, with a large base of Tinta Barocca. All foot-trodden in granite lagares and aged in new French oak barriques for 18 months. The fertile alluvial soils give a very inviting, open and generous style with fragrant soft red fruits, creamy blueberry and spicy floral notes. Very attractive oak frame, the palate is charming and fresh with notes of framboise, blue fruits, soft spice and wood. Effortless Burgundian style, a bit of a beauty. 5-15 years.

Niepoort

Têdo



Susana Ferraz at Niepoort winery

An independent family business since 1842...sounds familiar! Today it is very ably run by Eduard Dirk Niepoort (known as Dirk), the fifth generation of the family. Dirk took charge in 2005 having worked alongside his father, Rolf, since 1987. During this time they purchased their first vineyards: Quinta de Nápoles, the site of their state of the art winery, and Quinta do Carril in the Cima Corgo region considered the prime area for port production. Some

of the vineyards were replanted and are now 20 years old, and others were retained which are now between 60 and 80 years old. Dirk has been selling table wine since the 1999 vintage and is widely considered to be one of the best producers in the Douro. He was joined by his sister, Verena, in 2005 as Executive Director. He is helped also by Luis Sebra their winemaker.

Whites

Redoma Branco 2021

DPW03021 6bts £87

Old vineyards on schist and granite at that familiar 600m elevation, based on Códega, Rabigato and Arinto. This showed very good lift and an uncanny delicacy - citrus and cologne-like. The palate offered more citrus, with a tense mineral character, great freshness and some spice. Attractive, juicy, and well-balanced, building in mineral flavours towards a focused finish featuring a little grip. 0-5 years.

Redoma Reserva Branco 2021

DPW04821 6bts £159

A similar blend to the regular bottling, but older vines (50-70 years), and a mix of older French barrels. The wood stands out a little more here, and the citrus is oilier and more concentrated giving a luxurious feel. The palate shows great concentration and richness, some fat and line of citrus leading to something more tropical. Plenty of power and drive, very long and bright throughout, with layers of mealy flavour and a tangy, saline finish. 2-7 years.

Reds

Redoma Tinto 2020

DPR01520 6bts £151.50

70-year-old vines, a field blend based on Touriga Franca, Tinta Roriz, Tinta Amarela, and Tinta Cão, fermented in stainless-steel and aged in enormous old 10,000L tonneaux. Cool and fresh nose, displaying loganberry and black raspberry fruit with a touch of milk chocolate, and a hint of stem and spice from the whole bunches. The palate offers a little sap and some chalky bite to the tannins, with soft summer fruits over a savoury core. Juicy, fresh, supple, and notably well-balanced. A joy and highly recommended. 0-7 years.

Vertente 2019

DPR04719 6bts £87

A blend of older vineyards around Quinta do Nápoles, fermented in stainless steel and mostly older barrels. Showing lovely lift on the nose, attractive seasoned wood, complex sweet spices, black cherry and notes of the forest floor – the fruit aromas are gorgeous! The palate has a leafy green streak, more spicing, and a sappy light astringency to the soft tannins which put us in mind of elegant Bordeaux. Fragrant, tasty, and nicely balanced. 2-9 years.

Charme 2020

DPR03320 3bts £169.50

A field blend based on Tinta Roriz and Touriga Franca from 70–80-year-old vines, matured in a mix of new and old French barrels for around 15 months. As always, a pale ruby appearance gives the impression of something lighter. The nose is superb, very Pinot with excellent lift and a red-centric fruit profile with notable delicacy. The palate is intense and silky, with a creamy thread, notes of clove and other woody elements, with a savoury vein. It is remarkable that wines like this exist in the Douro. 3-15 years.



Symington Family Estates

Vila Nova de Gaia



The Symington Family Estates is a family-owned producer with enviable historic links to the region. It owns 1024 hectares of vines making it the Douro's leading vineyard owner. Along with its production of some of the world's most famous Ports, its still wines have an excellent

reputation. With a large portfolio of estates, it's arguably properties such as Quinta do Vesuvio and the numerous wines produced in partnership Bruno Prats (Prats & Symington) that have cemented its place as among the finest producers of still wine in the region.

Praze de Roriz 2019

DPR00319 6bts £52.50

Touriga Franca and Nacional, Tinta Barocca and Tinta Roriz, aged in large older oak barrels for six months. An attractive nose of candied red and black fruits, especially blackcurrant, opening out to softer strawberry cake. The palate is spicy and has a spiciness to the tannins, overall very supple and fleshy with lots of soft red fruits, juicy acidity, and some fine chalky grip. Balanced stuff. 0-7 years.

Post Scriptum 2020

DPR02520 6bts £88.50

Touriga Nacional and Franca, Tinta Roriz, and Tinta Barocca, aged for new and older larger French oak barrels. A great nose, very Douro – plush, expressive, and nicely defined layered of cool blue and black fruits. Full and svelte in the mouth, velvety in texture over some serious structure. Fresh and lively, brilliantly balanced, a great example of power and elegance. Very fine. 3-12 years.

Chryseia 2019

DPR02319 6bts £318

75% Touriga Nacional and 25% Franca, aged for 14 months in used French oak. A touch more restrained than the PS, with a similarly dark and cool quality, super definition, and a broad, deep, and silky, luxurious feel. The palate feels grand, with great volume and lift, a careful creamy texture, lovely freshness, and complex floral spicing, notes of tea and perfumed dark fruit flavours. Powerful, beautifully balance and very long. 5-20 years.

Pombal do Vesuvio 2019

DPR04019 6bts £93

Touriga Nacional, Touriga Franca, and 5% Tinta Amarela, aged for eight months in French oak (50% new). Displays a sweeter, very lifted Douro perfume of blue fruits, and gummy/minty cistus. The palate too is lifted and fresh with lovely acidity and lots of blackcurrant pastille fruit flavours with great definition, and a savoury core and some mineral grip helps this power on through. Very intense, plentiful fine tannins, and elegant with it – some great ingredients here. 3-12 years.

Quinta do Vesuvio 2019

DPRI0519 6bts £270

Similar blend to the Pombal but aged for 14 months in French oak (80% new). The fruit here is picked at slightly higher altitude and builds on that sense of precision, purity, and definition. Hints of new wood and toast accentuate the sweet, perfumed fruit, which is a gorgeous, expressive mix of black cherry and cassis. Expansive and expressive on the palate too, which features plenty of grip, creamy textures, ripe and juicy fruit with some astringency, sap, and savoury elements, ahead of a spicy finish. Impressive and age-worthy. 5-20 years.

Van Zellers & Co.

São João da Pesqueira



Cristiano Van Zeller and Graham sampling tawny port

Douro wine legend Cristiano Van Zeller was the first name on the list of our inaugural 2005 Douro En Primeur campaign, a hugely enthusiastic ambassador of Douro wines, many of you will recall he was the leading light behind the ever popular red, Quinta Vale D Maria. Having sold the Quinta Vale D Maria name in 2017 to Avelada (owners of Quinta Vale do Sabor), he continues to produce

wonderfully crafted reds, whites, and ports.

Cristiano has now brought his daughter, Francesca, into the fold and together they have put their mind to developing the dormant Van Zellers & Co brand. His current VZ range are sourced from old vines on several small properties located in Vale do Torto, Pinhão, Valença do Douro and the Murça area.

White

VZ Branco, Van Zellers & Co. 2021

DPW0612I 6bts £82.50

A blend of Viosinho, Rabigato, Códaga, Gouveio, and Arinto from a 70-year-old vineyard, fermented and aged in new and one year old French barrels for around nine months. Attractive and mellow with great freshness on the nose, showing some toasty wood, citrus and softer floral elements. The palate displays very good energy, a vinous quality and super lift, with sappy elements, some astringency from the wood, and long layered and mealy flavours, developing more floral character with air. Modern, impressive style and should cellar well. 1-7 years.

Red

VZ Tinto, Van Zellers & Co. 2019

DPRI0619 6bts £82.50

A field blend of some 30 different varieties, from various sites across the Cima Corgo, foot-trodden and aged for 21 months in a mix of one- and two-year-old French oak barrels. This has an explosive Douro perfume, full of gorgeous blackberry fruit, toast, and black pepper, with great depth and freshness. Full-bodied, very fragrant with more black peppery, lots of energy and great acidity. Plentiful tannins with a fine chalky grip, the oak is very well-integrated, manifesting in a creamy mid-palate ahead of a long, lip-smacking finish. We tasted some older vintages, and this is going to cellar very well. 3-15 years.



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