

# QUINTA DAS CARVALHAS

(DOURO, VISEU DISTRICT, NORTHERN PORTUGAL)

<http://realcompanhiavelha.pt/pages/quintas/4#>



Quinta das Carvalhas is one of the most emblematic and spectacular properties in the Douro Valley.

Written references regarding this magnificent vineyard can be traced back to 1759. Enjoying a prominent position on the left bank of the Douro River, in Pinhão, the estate covers the entire hillside facing the Douro River and occupies part of the slopes of the right bank of the tributary Torto river.

Quinta das Carvalhas is characterized by very particular edaphoclimatic conditions. Its vines are located at various altitudes - extending from river border to the top of the slope. The largest vine surface of the Quinta faces a northern sun exposure, yet, another fraction of the vineyard, on the other side of the mountain, faces a southern exposure. Most of the parcels are planted in areas of deep inclination, with only a small fraction planted at a less inclined location, at the top of the hill.

The viticultural heritage is constituted of almost-centennial vines of field blend, in which rare indigenous varieties are considered interesting repositories for an ampelographic variation. Younger vines are composed by distinguished varieties and benefit from a modern viticultural approach.

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## Touriga Nacional 2017

CSPC# 784060

750mlx12

14% alc./vol.

### Chemical Analysis

Acidity: 4.9 g/l      pH: 3.70      Residual Sugar: 0.7g/l

### Grape Variety

100% Touriga Nacional

### Vintage

The year 2017 was essentially characterized by a significantly atypical climate, having this been an extremely hot and dry year all round. Sprouting occurred prematurely, followed by a big advance in the vegetative cycle up until the harvest, due to a continuous evolution in climate conditions. The long absence of precipitation alongside very high temperatures caused meaningful hydric and thermal stress, resulting in one of the earliest harvest campaigns in Douro history, beginning in mid-August with a three week advance in comparison to usual timings. Nevertheless, 2017 was a great year in terms of quality, producing classic Reds and remarkable Ports.

### Vineyards

The Touriga Nacional parcels present at the estate represent for 55 acres having North and South exposure.

### Vinification/ Maturation

A careful selection of Touriga Nacional grapes is fermented in medium size stainless-steel tanks at controlled temperature to be aged partially (50%) in new French oak barrels for 12 months.

### Tasting Notes

This Touriga Nacional, made exclusively from grapes grown in a North-facing hillside of the Quinta, expresses the fresh varietal character with floral and bergamot notes dominant over riper fruit flavours of blueberries. It is intense, deep, and complex offering great pleasure to enjoy while young and vibrant, although it will certainly reward patient cellaring.

### Serve with Production

Enjoy this powerful and vibrant Touriga Nacional with red meat, game, and cheeses. 1,500 bottles made.

### Cellaring

Store bottles on their sides in a cool place away from direct light. Serve at 18°C.

### Scores/Awards

**89 points** - Mark Squires, Wine Advocate - July 2021

### Reviews

*"The 2017 Touriga Nacional, with just "Quinta das Carvalhas" on the label, was aged for 12 months in 50% new French oak. It comes in at 13.85% alcohol. This is the mid-level estate Touriga. Don't confuse this with the Touriga that has "Carvalhas" in large letters with a sub-text of "Touriga Nacional de Quinta das Carvalhas," which is more of an upper-level wine. This is straightforward with decent depth and just a bit of power on the finish, but as it expands in the glass with aeration, it shows very nicely as a middle-of-the-road Touriga. It doesn't stand out for anything, but it touches all the bases nicely. It's not the most expressive Touriga, but it projects solidity, a modest backbone, and a decent finish. For the nice price, it's a very good deal. It should be able to hold well throughout most of this decade, but it will probably be at its best now and over the next few years. It is worth leaning up today"*

- MS, Wine Advocate

