

Quinta do Montalto

Varietal: Aragonez
Vintage: 2015
Fanciful Name: Cepa Aragonez
Region/AVA: Lisboa
State Of Origin: Lisboa
ABV: 14%
Bottle Size: 750 ml
Bottles Per Case: 12
Closure Type: Cork

WINE STORY:

Quinta do Montalto not only dates back five generations to the year 1880, but also is one of very few wineries that continues to carry on a traditional style of local wine that dates back to the 1100's, made in the same traditional way it always has been, and is now under the D.O.C. of Medieval de Ourém Encostas d'Aire. In general, the wines are labeled Vinho Regional Lisboa, because they are in the most northern zone of Lisboa (previously Estremadura), between the villages of Ourém and the religiously famous Fátima (where the Blessed Virgin Mary was said to appear to three children in 1917). Montalto is perched in the middle of 50 hectares of certified organic land, 15 of which are vineyards, and the rest are dedicated to fruit, gardens, and forest. Montalto's production of native varieties is beautifully illustrative of the grapes and area, as they use native yeasts for the fermentation of their Medieval and red wines, very neutral oak, and light filtering methods. Montalto's Cepa Pura Aragonez is a spectacular and complex expression of this Portuguese-named Tempranillo, which is also named Tinta Roriz further north. Any grape that is grown in different places within a country presents unique shades and flavors, depending on the terroir of the area, and this wine is no different. After they are hand-harvested from a young vineyard, the grapes began a natural fermentation in stainless steel before they are moved to oak barrels. Half of the must is transferred to both French and American 225L oak barriques for ten months, and the other half is moved to 700L French barrels of 5 years for 12 months. As both reconvene in stainless before an unfiltered bottling, the complexities of the finished wine is ready for its rest in the glass. All of Montalto's wines are pure, expressive, an incredible value, and a wonderful representation of what the region is known for.

SCORES AND ACCOLADES:

