

# CRASTO WHITE 2023

Appellation Douro

## Viticultural Year

2023 was another atypical year in the Douro: the winter was mild and rainy, the spring was very dry and warm, and the summer was hot, with high rainfall levels in June and September.

Regarding the growth cycle, budburst was slightly later than usual, with high spring temperatures bringing an early onset of both flowering and veraison. This resulted in the second earliest harvest at Quinta do Crasto, with the white grape picking beginning on August 10th.

Winter rainfall and temperatures were higher than average in the sub-regions of Cima Corgo and Douro Superior. High cumulative rainfalls were recorded between November and January, whereas less rain than average fell in February. December was the wettest month in both sub-regions. This plentiful rain had a significantly favourable impact on groundwater reserves.

March to May precipitation was far below the previous 30-year average, while temperatures were higher than normal. April was especially warm and dry.

June recorded high rainfall, which, in Douro Superior, was accompanied by hail. July and August were quite dry. Average temperatures during this period were close to average, except in August, which was very hot. Although early September witnessed optimal ripening conditions, the latter half of the month brought thunderstorms, with intense rainfall falling in a short space of time. October was also markedly cool and rainy. Despite the challenge posed by soil and weather conditions and the increased pest and disease pressure, the grapes entering the winery were healthy and fully ripe, resulting in highly balanced and elegant wines with good colour, structure, and lots of character.

### **Grape Varieties**

40% Viosinho; 30% Gouveio; 30% Rabigato

## Winemaking

The grapes, chosen from selected plots, are taken to the winery in 22 kg plastic boxes. On arrival in the winery they are rigorously inspected on a sorting table. The grapes are then destemmed and pressed. The juice is transferred to stainless steel tanks where it remains for 48 hours at 8°C for decanting. The alcoholic fermentation takes place in temperature-controlled stainless steel tanks at 14°C for 30 days.

### Ageing

85% of the blend is matured in stainless steel vats, with occasional lees stirring. 15% of the blend is fermented and aged in 225-litre used French oak barrels, with occasional lees stirring for three months.

## **Tasting Note**

Pale lemon in colour. Expressive and complex on the nose, showing fresh citrus fruit aromas and elegant hints of orange blossom. The palate reflects the essence of the region's high-altitude vineyards, showing vibrant freshness, excellent volume and elegant texture, with notes of minerality standing out. The finish is engaging, fresh and persistent.

### **Technical information**

**Age of Vines** More than 20 years old

Serving temperature 8-10° East - North Granitic/ 600 metres

Landscaping

Vinha ao alto

Aspect, Soil and Altitude

Alcohol, ABV 12,5%

Bottling

March 2024

Analytical Data Total Acidity: 5,4 gr/L pH: 3,49 Residual Sugar: 1,8 gr/L **Winemaker** Manuel Lobo Cátia Barbeta

DOURO

D.O.C

2023



(rows of vines planted up and down the slope) and *patamares* (terraces) with one and two rows of vines

Quinta do Crasto - Gouvinhas 5060-063 Sabrosa Portugal www.quintadocrasto.pt

(f) (D) (D) (in) (Y) (P) ( $\infty$ )

Email: crasto@quintadocrasto.pt Tel.: +351 254 920 020 Fax: +351 254 920 788

