

Notas de prova: janeiro 2019

Tasting notes: January 2019



## TASTING NOTES: JANUARY 2019

January 7, 2019

We launch into 2019 with a continued focus on the gems from small producers from around Portugal that represent great complexity and enjoyment. Because so many can be found for less than €25, you can explore new wines with ease. In 2017, we visited *Quinta de Soalheiro*, near Melgaço in the far north of Portugal's Vinho Verde DOC—not quite in Spain, but you can see it from their patio. We'd held onto a special bottle of their 2016 Alvarinho Reserva and enjoyed it over the holidays.

We're glad we set it aside—and this wine certainly could age in the bottle for several years. While the typical Vinho Verde at lower price points can be light and effervescent, the 2016 Reserva shows off its aging in oak through lovely spice box aromas and flavors. I also found aromas of chermoya (custard apple) and kiwi, with green mango and golden pears on the palate. Lots of layers to this white, though its mouthfeel remains rather light. We had it with roast pork with mustard cream sauce for an elegant meal.

Vintage & Producer: 2016 Quinta de Soalheiro

From: DOC Vinho Verde, Monção & Melgaço Subregion

Style: Complex, spicy white

Variety: Alvarinho

Price: About €24 online

