

HERDADE GRANDE



D.O. Overview :

A region of rolling plains, the Alentejo has a relatively smooth and flat landscape that stretches across almost a third of mainland Portugal. The soils alternate between schist, clay, marble, granite and limestone, in an unusual diversity. The climate is clearly Mediterranean, hot and dry, with a strong continental influence. The Alentejo is divided into eight sub-regions, Borba, Évora, Granja-Amareleja, Moura, Portalegre, Redondo, Reguengos and Vidigueira.

The white varieties include Antão Vaz, Arinto and Roupeiro, as well as the now underrated Diagalves, Manteúdo, Perrum and Rabo de Ovelha. The red varieties are Alfrocheiro, Alicante Bouschet, Aragonez, Castelão and Trincadeira, as well as the underrated Moreto, Tinta Caiada and Tinta Grossa.

ORIGIN

Alentejo DOC | Vidigueira, Portugal

DESIGNATION

Sousão Tinto

VARIETIES

Sousão

ALCOHOL

14%

VINEYARD

Herdade Grande has grown their estate vineyard holdings to 60 hectares of production. The poor schist soils are favorable to the expression and evolution of the vine and well suited for both regional and international varieties. Selection was based on adaptability to the terroir and how they express the identity of Alentejo, and specifically, Vidigueira.

PROCESS

Grapes are hand-harvested at full maturity in late September. Clusters are sorted and undergo a full destemming and are chilled prior to fermentation. Fermentation occurs in temperature controlled stainless steel tanks. Aged for 12 months in new French oak barrels.

TASTING

Deep ruby in color. Offers intense aromas of fruit and florals. Very rich and complex on the palate with persistent fruit accompanied by toast from the barrel aging. Long and generous finish.

WINERY

Since 1920 the Lança family has been making wine in Vidigueira, the prime region within the DOC of Alentejo. It is now the third and fourth generations who are running the estate and continuing on the ancestral 'Talha' method of winemaking and aging, in clay pots as the Romans did long, long ago. Indigenous varieties, Mediterranean climate, predominantly schist soils, and sustainable viticulture are keys to the Lança family's elegant wines and continued longevity.