

# Alvarinho Soalheiro Primeiras Vinhas 2016



The grapes are produced with the concept of organic viticulture and harvest by hand from the old vines with more than 40 years at Quinta de Soalheiro, the First Vines “Primeiras Vinhas”. Currently in the blend also include a selection of Alvarinho grapes planted in Pé-franco.

The microclimate that influences the production of Alvarinho grapes is very particular. Melgaço region, the northern point of Portugal, is protected by a range of mountains that create the perfect conditions of rainfall, temperature and number of hours of sunshine needed to the better ripeness of the Alvarinho grapes. The brand name – Soalheiro - arises from the excellent sun exposure of the vineyards bearing the same name - a sunny place.

Just as perfect as the previous harvest, yet different, the 2016 harvest is more elegant with more moderate alcohol. The aromas that are citrusy and tropical, all highlighting the enormous persistence of flavour. ‘It is not usual to have two consecutive perfect harvests, but 2015 was exceptional and 2016 follows the same path...’ state the producers of the first Alvarinho brand in Melgaço.

Producer  
Soalheiro

Region  
Melgaço, Monção

## Vinification

The grapes are harvested manually in boxes of small capacity and carried to the cellar in a short space of time. After the pressing and the before fermentation with controlled temperature, the must was decanted during 48 hours. Fermentation essentially takes place in stainless steel vats at a very low temperature (only 15% of the total volume ferments in used oak barrels), and fine sediments is kept until the beginning of May. Currently in the blend also include a partial aging in large oak cask.

Grape Varieties  
Alvarinho

Alcohol (%)  
13

pH  
3.26

Total Acidity (g/dm<sup>3</sup>)  
6.6

Volatile Acidity (g/dm<sup>3</sup>)  
0.4

Residual Sugar  
Dry

{ The values are approximate }

## Tasting Notes

Citrus colour, elegant and full flavour that grows in the glass, becoming increasingly persistent. The flavour is full bodied, fresh and complex with great final complexity.

## Food Suggestions

Ideal as an aperitif or to accompany seafood dishes, fish or poultry dishes.