

# Alvarinho Soalheiro Reserva 2011



The grapes are organically produced and harvest by hand from the old vines at Quinta de Soalheiro. 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.

2011 – a classic harvest. This harvest has high temperatures in the beginning of the growing season that allowed early flowering, assuming an early harvest, however moderate temperatures during maturation (late July and August) favoured the aromatic concentration and moderate alcohol levels associated with a well-balanced acidity in the grapes. The harvest in Soalheiro was early and longer than average, occurring mainly in the first two weeks of September. The climatic conditions of 2011 allowed a very elegant aroma, mineral and tropical, with a good balance of taste, fresh and intense, anticipating a good ability to evolution in the bottle.

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. The fermentation and aging take place in French oak (new and used), and remained in “batonnage” with fine lees until the end of August 2012.*

Grape Varieties  
Alvarinho

Alcohol (%)  
13

pH  
3.31

Total Acidity (g/dm<sup>3</sup>)  
6

Volatile Acidity (g/dm<sup>3</sup>)  
0.53

{ the values are orientative }

## Tasting Notes

*Citrus colour, elegant and full flavour with oak notes, maintaining the freshness and fruit of Alvarinho grape. The flavour is full bodied and complex.*

## Food Suggestions

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