



Name of Wine: Loureiro

Producer: Quinta do Ameal

Region: Lima sub-region of Vinho Verde, Portugal

Vintage: 2010

Grape Varieties: 100% Loureiro Though existing in almost the entire region of Vinho Verde, it is originally from the valley of the River Lima. Although it is a very productive and fertile grape variety, it has only recently been considered "noble". Loureiro's bunches are big and not very compact, while the berries are medium-sized and yellowish or greenish coloured. Loureiro produces high acidity wines, with very strong floral and fruity aromas. It produces monovarietal wine but is also often used in blend wines (mixture of several grape varieties), combined with Trajadura and Arinto.

Grape Source:

Vineyards: Quinta do Ameal is a 12 hectare estate owned vineyard farmed organically and certified. It is situated on a south facing gentle slope with great sun exposure.

Soil: Granite.

Vinification:

Harvest/Fermentation: Hand harvested and fermented with native yeast in stainless steel tanks. No oak aging. No malolactic fermentation.

Other:

Alcohol Volume: 11.5%

Tasting Notes:

This wine may be from the Vinho Verde region but don't get it confused with the stuff you'd normally expect to see in the supermarkets. Fresh floral and fruity aromas typical of the Loureiro grape. Excellent structure, crisp mouth watering acidity and long persistent finish. This wine will pair well with most seafood and spicier dishes.

History:

Quinta do Ameal is a small estate doing big things in the Minho region of Portugal. Owner and winemaker Pedro Araujo has received much praise for all the hard work he has done to bring attention to the Lima region and the Loureiro grape. Normally a high yielding variety, Pedro has cut yields to his Loureiro vines by an astonishing 2/3's, rewarded in turn by fantastic well structured fruit and wine with an ability to age as is the case in his Escolha Loureiro. The Ameal vineyards are referred to in the annals of the Refóios do Lima convent, which were written sometime before 1710 making this a historic vineyard site.

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