

2021 HARVEST REPORT

JOSÉ MARIA  DA FONSECA





The 2021 harvest started on the 17th of August in the Setúbal Peninsula, José de Sousa (Reguengos) on the 9th of August and on the 22nd of August in the Douro.

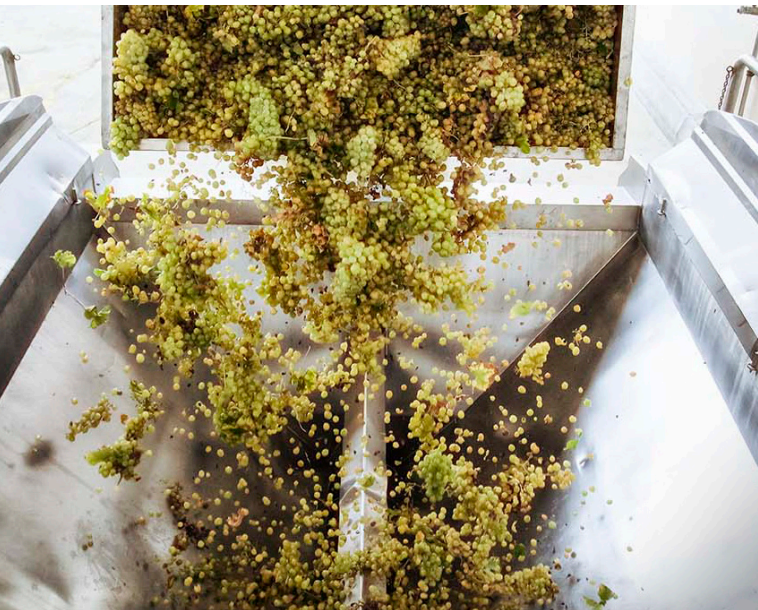
Climate wise:

Setúbal Peninsula - rain way below normal (still under drought conditions), mild temperatures throughout growing season. Quality is considered excellent very similar to 2017

Vinho Verde - temperatures were lower than average and rainfall was higher than previous years. The yields were lower than historical ones and quality will be very good.

José de Sousa (Reguengos) - rainfall was above average and temperatures lower. It is estimated an increase in production quantity and quality is excellent very similar to 2017

Douro Superior - rain below normal, mild temperature throughout the growing season. Challenging vintage due to rain during the harvest that will result in heterogeneous quality.



The growing cycle started about 2 weeks later than normal - end of March. Flower setting was in mid -June. In our vineyards in the Setúbal Peninsula we had to prevent oidium and mildium with only 3 interventions in the field.

With conditions of mild temperatures and enough water in the soil - it rained at the right time - the vines continued to breathe, but the sugar content was not very high, so the alcohol level is in between 12,5 and 13,5 for reds and 11 and 12,5 for whites and rosés. This makes well-balanced wines with the right acidity, clean aromas and delicate palates.

We believe that 2021 will be very close in quality to 2017, which was a very, very good vintage throughout Portugal. While in 2017, we registered a few heat waves in the Summer, in 2021 the growing season had very mild with temperatures (between 25°C and 35°C), which will result in very balanced wines.

At our winery we will produce all of our SUPERPRIMIUM wines and a few 100% varietal wines will be bottled since they achieved excellent levels of quality. Now lets' wait and see the evolution of these precious "stones".



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