

Domingos Soares Franco

Private Collection

Moscatel Roxo 2003

Domingos Soares Franco Private Collection assembles wines that show his creative and innovator spirit, originated in his wine culture passion.

History

Domingos Soares Franco is the younger brother in the sixth generation of the family that has run José Maria da Fonseca since its foundation in 1834. As both Vice-President and senior winemaker of the company Domingos has become a prominent figure in the field of Portuguese winegrowing.

This status is not derived solely from his connection to this prestigious Vila Nogueira de Azeitão company. It is also from the fact that Domingos was the first Portuguese national to graduate in Fermentation Sciences (Viticulture and Oenology) from the University of California in Davis, USA. This achievement is important in the influence it has had on his view of vines and wines: although intending to maintain the distinctive features of Portuguese wines he is constantly looking to the future, seeking innovation whenever possible.

Although all José Maria da Fonseca's wines are of his making, some are particularly special to him. Labelled "Domingos Soares Franco Private Collection", these are all varietal wines. They are the result of three factors: his studies at Davis, the influence of his uncle and his access to 650 hectares of José da Fonseca vineyard and the diverse grape varieties planted there – a unique collection in Portugal. This collection serves rather like a palette of colours in the hand of an artist; allowing Domingos to experiment with a number of grape varieties.

He created an exquisite dessert wine produced from the Moscatel grape variety in its purple version: the Moscatel Roxo. This grape variety is extremely rare and was even risking extinction; its unique purple colour makes the distinction from the white Moscatel variety.

Company's History

José Maria da Fonseca is the oldest and one of the most prestigious wineries in Portugal, producing wines, Port and Setubal Moscatel. The Soares Franco family owns José Maria da Fonseca and has been involved in the wine business for over 177 years. With over 650 hectares of land under vine in our main wine regions: Península de Setúbal, Alentejo and Douro, José Maria Fonseca also boasts Portugal's largest winery, with capacity to produce 6.5 million litres of wine in a totally computerised operation.

Reviews

- 1998** Decanter Wine Awards 2008 - Silver Medal
VIII Edition Concurso de Vinhos da Península de Setúbal 2008
Best Wine in Competition
- 1999** X Edition Concurso de Vinhos da Península de Setúbal 2010
Gold Medal for fortified wines
- 2001** "The Best of 2010", Revista de Vinhos
Best of Portugal Award for Moscatel de Setúbal



Vintage Information

Classification: DOC Moscatel de Setúbal
Type: Moscatel de Setúbal Roxo
Region: Setúbal Península
Type of Soil: Lime and clay
Wine Production: 10.000 Litres

Tasting Notes:

Colour Dark topaz with reddish tints
Aroma Very delicate, dry figs, dry apricots, litchis and hazelnuts
Palate Fruity, soft, elegant with a very good acidity
Finish Very long

Vinification: Fermentation stops by adding brandy. There was a skin contact of 4 months.

Date of Bottling: May 2011

Analyses:

Alcohol 17.4%
Total Acidity 4.35 g/l tartaric acid
pH 3.53
Residual Sugar 180 g/l

Serving Suggestions: As an aperitif at a temperature of 10°C or, at 16°C as a dessert wine. This wine may through sediment.

Storage: The bottles should be laid down at a temperature of 12°C and 60% humidity.

Shelf life: Many years

JOSÉ MARIA  DA FONSECA