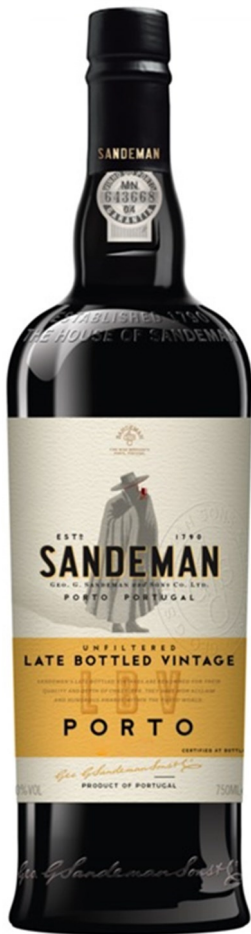


Sandeman,  
**Unfiltered Late Bottled Vintage Port 2018**  
Douro, Portugal



Grape Varieties	<b>43% Touriga Franca</b> <b>30% Touriga Nacional</b> <b>17% Tinta Roriz</b> <b>6% Tinta Barroca</b> <b>4% Tinto Cão</b>
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Winemaker	<b>Luís Sottomayor</b>
Closure	<b>Natural Cork</b>
ABV	<b>20%</b>
Residual Sugar	<b>100g/L</b>
Acidity	<b>4.6g/L</b>
Wine pH	<b>3.5</b>
Bottle Sizes	<b>75cl</b>
Notes	<b>Vegetarian, Vegan</b>

## PRODUCER

There are few more iconic images in the world of wine than the 'Don', the logo created for the Sandeman family in 1928 by George Massiot Brown. The cape was modelled on the attire worn by university students in Porto, while the wide-brimmed hat was a nod to the family's presence in Jerez. Today, the wines are good enough to be every bit as famous as the image of the Don. Since Sogrape bought Sandeman in 2002, the major improvements and investment that have taken place in the vineyards and the winemaking has seen the wines rise to the top of the tree in Port.

## VINEYARDS

The Touriga Franca, Touriga Nacional, Tinta Roriz, Tinta Barroca and Tinto Cão grapes that make up the LBV blend are sourced from prime sites in the Cima Corgo sub-region of the Douro including Quinta do Seixo and Quinta do Vau. The soil in the Douro Valley is schist - a slate-like metamorphic rock, that fractures vertically, allowing the vine roots to dig deep to access water and nutrients to sustain them through the hot Douro summers. The vines are planted on terraces supported by dry stone walls on the steep hillsides sloping down to the Douro river. Given the steep gradients and the inaccessibility for machinery, vineyard operations and harvesting are carried out by hand.

## VINTAGE

2018 was a challenging vintage in the Douro due to unsettled weather at the beginning of the growing cycle. An extremely dry and cold winter delayed budburst and a particularly rainy spring led to increased disease pressure in the vineyards, which resulted in lower yields. Nevertheless, the spring rains replenished water reserves in the soil and sustained the vines through the hot and dry summer that followed. The grapes harvested were top quality with great concentration and balance. "2018 is one of the best, if not the best, vintage years I have witnessed", claims Luís.

## VINIFICATION

Upon arrival at the Quinta do Seixo winery, the grapes were destemmed and gently crushed. Fermentation took place in granite lagares with vigorous treading to extract the ideal levels of colour, flavour and tannin from the grape skins. The ferment was closely monitored to determine the ideal moment to halt the fermentation by fortifying with grape spirit, leaving some of the grapes' natural sugars. The wines remained in the Douro until the spring following the harvest when they were transported downstream to the historic Sandeman cellars in Vila Nova de Gaia for ageing in oak casks for around four years. The wines were regularly tasted and analysed during this time and the final blend was assembled from a selection of the best casks. The LBV is bottled unfiltered, in order to preserve its great intensity of flavour.

## TASTING NOTES

Deep ruby in colour, this wine boasts intense and complex aromas of ripe and juicy blackberries, black cherries, strawberries and plums, married with spicy notes and subtle hints of cocoa. On the palate, firm but ripe tannins and a lively acidity carry the concentrated flavours onto a complex and lingering finish.

## AWARDS

International Wine Challenge 2023, Silver

