Sandeman,

Imperial Tawny Port NV Douro, Portugal





Grape Varieties

Tinta Amarela Tinta Roriz Tinta Barroca Tinto Cão Touriga Franca Touriga Nacional

Closure	Natural Cork
ABV	20%
Residual Sugar	97g/L
Acidity	4g/L
Wine pH	3.55
Bottle Sizes	75cl
Notes	Sustainable

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 Douro Valley's soil is made of schist, a slate-like metamorphic rock that has useful water retention properties but is poor in nutrients. This forces the vines to lay down deep roots in turn producing high quality grapes. They are grown on terraces cut into the steep hillsides of the Douro Valley. The terraces are walled with cut schist preventing erosion, otherwise torrential rains would wash loose stones down the slopes and into the river. Each terrace can hold up to three rows of vines. As field blends, each year different quantities of the same varietals will be used to recreate the profile.

VINIFICATION

The hand-picked grapes are destemmed and crushed before fermentation at controlled temperatures, with some skin maceration to extract flavour components from the skins. The addition of grape spirit at the ideal moment sets the balance between the wine's sweetness and bouquet. The moment of fortification is chosen by the winemaker following strict control of fermentation temperatures and densities according to the vine variety, maturation stage and the final sweetness required. After the harvest, the wines remain in the Douro until the following spring, when they are taken to Vila Nova de Gaia and enter Sandeman's centuries-old lodges for ageing in oak casks. The final blend is composed with wines from different ages and origins to achieve a consistent style and quality. The selected wines usually vary between 4 and 12 years of age, achieving an average age of about 7 years.

TASTING NOTES

A premium Tawny blend with an amber colour. Full of elegant flavours, Sandeman Imperial Tawny perfectly balances youthful fruits with more mature notes of dried fruits, nuts and fresh vanilla aromas. Rich in the mouth, its complex layers are long lasting on the finish.

AWARDS

Decanter World Wine Awards 2021, Gold Medal Winner International Wine Challenge 2021, Silver International Wine & Spirit Competition, Silver