QUINTA DE LA ROSA

Vintage 1994

1994, following as it did the very wet and cold conditions of 1993, of which few Quintas wish to be reminded, the wines had plenty of reserve to call upon.

Weather patterns at the Quinta during 1994 gave a cold winter and spring with sprinklings of snow often noted on the nearby hills.
Bunches, when formed, took a long time to mature evenly and when the Quinta started vintaging on September 22nd we were as usual careful to choose the most forward vineyards for immediate picking to ensure the highest sugar content. This attention to detail has paid off.

La Rosa is a vertically integrated Quinta rising to 450 metres above sea level, boasting many hidden micro climates within its cirtilage. Where possible we vintage and mature these small 'lotes' separately in order to achieve the maximum complexity in the finished ports, which would not have been possible from a less diversely planted property.

In 1994 we have identified these wines and have declared only a limited quantity of the best of the Quinta's production.

For those interested in viticultural aspects, 20% of the wine comes from very old (80+ years) mixed plantings giving highly concentrated tannic wines while the remaining constituents come from more modern (25/30 years) vineyards where the favoured Tinta Roriz, Touriga Nacional, Touriga Francesa and Tinta Barroca varieties predominate.

La Rosa's classic house style achieved by slow maceration in traditional granite 'Lagares' has produced a wine full of luscious forward fruit with a very attractive nose and a long velvety slightly drier finish across the palate.

The La Rosa 1994 Vintage Port is more delicate and subtle than say the muscular 1992, and though likely to last as long, will come forward for drinking sooner. It has intense colour and is a nicely elegant and complex wine which will cellar well.

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Recent Tastings Notes :

Raymond Reynolds

Firm and full fruit with a solid structure, but various layers of flavours making it a complex port

Drink :

2005 - 2030