



KOPKE

THE OLDEST PORT WINE HOUSE

COLHEITA PORT 2003

PORT WINE | PORTUGAL

TASTE HISTORY WITH THE OLDEST PORT WINE HOUSE



Every wine tells a story. Kopke's Colheitas, however, tell a unique story. To taste a wine is to taste history and, in the case of this 2003 Colheita, it means remembering a remarkable event like the sequencing of 99% of the human genome, with an accuracy of 99.99%. The Human Genome Project represented an enormous scientific breakthrough for medicine yet also raised fundamental ethical issues.

VINIFICATION

Hand-picked at the optimum time, the grapes are then destemmed, crushed and converted into wine through a process of careful maceration to extract their colour, tannins and aromas, enhanced by constant churning during fermentation. This takes place in vats (lagares) at a controlled temperature (between 28-30°C) until the right degree of sweetness (baumé) is achieved. At this point, grape brandy is added to create the final fortified wine. A wine of high quality, made from one single harvest. A Colheita wine matures in oak barrels for periods of time that can vary, but never less than 7 years. It is then bottled and sold according to the demands of the market.

TASTING NOTES

Deep red colour with a tawny-coloured rim. Complex bouquet of dried fruit, with prevailing notes of spice. Sophisticated and delicate on the palate. Good structure, well-balanced acidity and pleasant unctuousness. A long and enduring finish.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Served chilled, it reveals all its finesse and sophistication, especially when drunk with desserts made with caramel, dried fruit and spice, such as caramel fondant with apple and ginger jelly, tarte tatin, crème brûlée and medium-strength cheeses. Best served at a temperature between 14 and 16°C.

VINE

The rows of vines are traditionally planted across the slope in horizontal terraces. More recently vines have been planted up the slope (called "vinha ao alto", meaning vertically planted).

SOIL

Schist-sandstone (greywacke), interspersed with granite in some places.

HEIGHT

Up to 600 metres.

GRAPE VARIETIES

Traditional Douro grape varieties.

TECHNICAL DETAILS

Alcohol 20,00%

pH 3,55

Total Acidity 4,44 g/dm³

Reducing Sugars 118,00 g/dm³

WINEMAKER

Carlos Alves

The wine should be stored in a cool and dry place, sheltered from light and temperature fluctuations, and the bottle should remain in an upright position. Over time, it is natural that sediment will form at the bottom of a bottle of Port wine. To assure its full quality and flavour, it should be stored in bottle for as little time as possible, and should be drunk preferably between 2 to 6 months.

