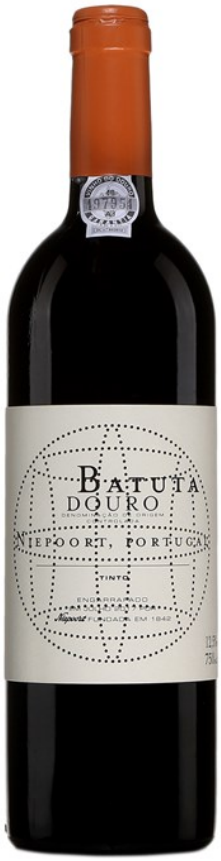


Niepoort

Made from 70 to 100-year-old vines , Niepoort Batuta is an intricate and refined wine that highlights both the power of the Douro terroir and the finesse of long aging in French oak.

Batuta 2022

Douro, Portugal



Alcohol :13,00 %

Composition: 100% Vinhas Velhas

Region and Vineyards

The **Douro Valley**, located in northern Portugal, is one of the world's oldest demarcated wine regions, famed for its steep, terraced vineyards and **schist soils**. **Batuta 2021** is crafted from grapes grown in **north-facing vineyards** at **Quinta do Carril**, with vines over **70 years old**, and from additional vineyards near **Quinta de Nápoles**, some of which are nearly **100 years old**.

These vineyards are planted at altitudes ranging from **350 to 700 meters**, which allows the vines to benefit from cooler conditions, preserving acidity and freshness in the grapes. The combination of **schist soils** and the **altitude** gives Batuta its characteristic minerality, balance, and complexity, producing a wine that reflects the unique terroir of the Douro.

Winemaking

The 2021 vintage offered higher-than-expected yields, with **Quinta de Nápoles** experiencing a 50% increase compared to previous years. The harvest began on **August 11, 2021**, and the fruit displayed excellent balance, with high acidity and low alcohol levels. The weather during September caused varying ripeness levels, but meticulous sorting of the grapes ensured only the best fruit was used.

Fermentation took place in **stainless steel tanks**, followed by an extended **skin contact period of approximately 80 days**. After this long maceration, **Batuta 2021** was aged for **20 months in French oak barriques**, with 50% of the wood being new. This aging process lends the wine its fine structure and allows the tannins to integrate seamlessly.

Tasting Notes

- **Color**: Deep, concentrated with violet hues.
- **Aroma**: The nose opens delicately with floral notes of **violet**, **raspberry**, and **rhubarb**, evolving into aromas of **graphite**, fresh herbs, and a touch of spice.
- **Palate**: On the palate, the wine is characterized by its **freshness**, vibrant **acidity**, and precise tannins. It offers a piquant, lingering finish, with great potential for aging. Despite its youth, **Batuta 2021** already shows remarkable structure and elegance.

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Batuta 2022

Did you know?

Batuta represents one of **Niepoort's** most structured wines, sitting alongside **Quinta de Nápoles** and **Robustus** in the portfolio. Despite its concentration and power, Batuta is always crafted with **elegance** and **freshness**, which are signatures of Niepoort's style.

Wine Pairing Ideas

- **Roasted Monkfish**: The fresh acidity and subtle spice of the wine complement the delicate flavors of monkfish, while its structure balances the richness of the dish.
- **Grilled Squid**: The wine's minerality and texture enhance the slightly charred and savory notes of grilled squid.
- **Roast Lamb with Herbs**: The complex tannins and fruit-forward profile of Batuta make it a great match for herb-crusted roast lamb.
- **Grilled Octopus**: The piquant and lingering finish of Batuta complements the smoky flavors of grilled octopus, while its freshness balances the dish's richness.

Robert Parker (RP) : 96 Points (2021)

The 2021 Batuta is the only red that is produced 100% with destemmed grapes, and it fermented with very long macerations (like an infusion) of up to four months, looking for very tight tannins with tension but without being aggressive. It matured in 228-liter oak barrels, 25% of them new, for some 18 months. But the wine is not oaky at all, especially in this cooler 2021 vintage, when it comes through as very young and elegant and light on its feet. It has only 12% alcohol and a velvety palate with very elegant, fine-grained and round tannins; it is sleek, polished and seamless, with a very tasty finish, almost salty too. It comes from very old vines planted with a field blend of local varieties, from two vineyards that fermented separately. The vineyards are very different—one high altitude, windy and healthy and the other one shady, with lots of humidity and not a lot of sunlight—and, when blended together, they make for a very complete and nuanced red. It has freshness, wild fruit, concentration and lightness. They changed this wine to this new profile and concept in 2018. I love it! 7,000 bottles produced. It was bottled in June 2023.