



# Niepoort

Niepoort Charme is an elegant and finely balanced red wine from the Douro Valley, made with meticulous attention to detail from very old vineyards located along the Pinhão River.

*Niepoort*

## Charme 2022

Douro, Portugal

### Region and Vineyards

Charme 2022 is produced in the **Douro Valley**, a historic wine region known for its terraced vineyards and **schist soils**, which provide ideal conditions for producing expressive, age-worthy wines. The vineyards for Charme are located in the **Vale de Mendiz**, on the banks of the **Pinhão River**. These **very old vines**, aged between **70 and over 100 years**, are planted at altitudes between **300 and 350 meters**, which allows the grapes to benefit from cooler temperatures, preserving their freshness and acidity.

The schist soils play a key role in the wine's mineral complexity, while the old vines contribute concentration and depth to the final blend. The natural farming practices employed at **Niepoort** enhance the grapes' expression of terroir, ensuring that each vintage reflects the uniqueness of its growing conditions.

### Winemaking

The 2022 vintage was particularly challenging, marked by extreme weather conditions, including heatwaves and heavy rains. It was also the **driest year** of the 21st century, leading to an early harvest, which was key to maintaining the wine's balance. For Charme, small batches were made in the early stages of the harvest, using **100% whole bunches**, which were **foot-trodden in traditional stone lagares**.

The wine underwent a short maceration period before completing its alcoholic and malolactic fermentations in **French oak barriques**, where it was aged for **15 months**. This careful winemaking process, using both traditional methods and modern techniques, ensures a wine that is elegant yet structured, with integrated tannins and great aging potential.



Alcohol :13,50 %

Composition: 100% Tinta Roriz



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## Charme 2022

### Tasting Notes

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- **Color:** Pale garnet, reminiscent of a fine **Pinot Noir** from Burgundy.
- **Aroma:** The nose opens with delicate **floral** notes, followed by aromas of **graphite, cherries, and rhubarb**, with a subtle touch of **aromatic herbs** and well-integrated oak.
- **Palate:** The wine shows **elegance**, precision, and structure, with a fresh acidity that enhances its vibrant character. The finish is long and lingering, with a perfect balance between fruit, spice, and minerality.

### Did you know?

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**Niepoort Charme** is one of the most elegant wines in the Douro, crafted with a clear inspiration from Burgundy's **Pinot Noir** style. The wine reflects the essence of old vines from the Douro, offering a distinct combination of freshness, complexity, and finesse, while using traditional winemaking techniques like **foot-treading** and **whole bunch fermentation**.

### Wine Pairing Ideas

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- **Wild Mushroom Risotto:** The earthy flavors of the mushrooms complement the wine's complex, herbal notes and minerality.
- **Roast Partridge or Pheasant:** The gamey flavors pair beautifully with the elegance and freshness of Charme, while the wine's acidity balances the richness of the dish.
- **Squab with Cherry Reduction:** The wine's cherry and rhubarb aromas enhance the sweet-savory notes of the dish, creating a harmonious pairing.
- **Herb-Crusted Lamb:** The fine tannins and subtle spice of the wine are a perfect match for tender lamb seasoned with herbs like rosemary and thyme.



#### Robert Parker (RP) : 98 Points (2021)

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*I was blown away by the elegance and subtleness of the 2021 Charme, I wine I know quite well and have followed from the first vintage (I think even a non-commercial release in the beginning). It's a red wine produced in Vale Mendiz where they make the Port, a mixture of vineyards from the village. It had a very short maceration of the full clusters in lagar, was pressed to barrels where it finished fermenting and was put through malolactic, was kept in barrel for nine months and then was transferred to the cellar in Quinta de Napoles. It has a very elegant and perfumed style, with no oak whatsoever. It's floral, with notes of red berries and herbs and a medium-bodied palate with refined, elegant tannins and a long and supple finish with a spicy twist (from the barrels? some 15% to 20% new). This wine has been changing through the years, and this has to be the most elegant version of it, following the path of the 2018. It has a moderate 13% alcohol with a pH of 3.56 and 5.7 grams of acidity. 9,700 bottles produced. It was bottled in January 2023. Superb!*



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