



# Wine & Soul

With a limited production of just 5,500 bottles, this vintage is an exceptional expression of Douro's terroir, showcasing the expertise of winemakers Sandra Tavares da Silva and Jorge Serôdio Borges.



## Pintas 2011

Douro, Portugal

### Region and Vineyards

The **Pintas vineyard**, located in Portugal's DOC Douro region, was planted in **1930** and spans just **8 acres**. This historic vineyard, grown on **schist soils** and facing south, offers ideal conditions for ripening and deep concentration of flavors. Sitting at **990 feet** above sea level, the vineyard's old vines and traditional **bush training** method result in low yields of **1.2 tons per acre**, which contributes to the wine's intensity and complexity.

This vineyard is a **field blend** of over 35 native grape varieties, a practice that reflects the diverse and rich history of Portuguese viticulture. The schist soil adds a unique minerality to the wine, enhancing its age-worthiness and structural depth.

### Winemaking

The **Pintas 2011** is produced with a meticulous and traditional approach, starting with **foot-trodden maceration** in **granite lagares** for 12 days, followed by fermentation at a controlled temperature of **75°F**. This process preserves the integrity and depth of each grape variety.

Aged for **22 months in French oak barriques**, 70% of which are new and 30% second passage, the wine gains additional layers of complexity and structure. This extended barrel aging, coupled with a **14.5% alcohol level**, results in a wine that is rich, balanced, and built to last. The winemaking techniques emphasize natural acidity and fine tannins, creating a seamless and harmonious palate.

### Tasting Notes

- **Color:** Deep, intense ruby with violet reflections.
- **Aroma:** Aromatic and layered, featuring notes of **spices, blackberry, floral hints**, and subtle accents of **dark chocolate**.
- **Palate:** Full-bodied and rounded, with a balanced structure. The wine's notable acidity and fine tannins contribute to its elegance, leading to a **long, persistent finish** that leaves a lasting impression.

Alcohol :14,50 %

Composition: 100% Vinhas Velhas



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## Did you know?

The **Pintas vineyard** is one of the few vineyards in the Douro to feature such a broad field blend of over 35 indigenous grape varieties. This diversity not only enriches the wine's complexity but also represents a living piece of Portuguese winemaking history, preserved through the meticulous work of **Sandra Tavares da Silva and Jorge Serôdio Borges**.

## Wine Pairing Ideas

- **Portuguese Lamb Stew:** The wine's depth and tannins balance well with the rich flavors and spices of the stew, enhancing the savory notes of lamb.
- **Grilled Ribeye Steak:** A robust pairing, with the wine's acidity cutting through the steak's fat while complementing its charred flavors.
- **Aged Manchego Cheese:** The wine's fruit and acidity make it a delightful match for this nutty, slightly sharp cheese, creating a harmonious balance.
- **Roasted Duck with Fig Sauce:** The wine's berry and dark chocolate notes are beautifully echoed by the fig sauce, making for an elegant pairing.



### Wine Spectator (WS) : 98 Points (2011)

*Rich, well-crafted and full of refinement, this red offers powerful flavors of dried sage, crushed red plum and succulent dark berry, supported by fresh acidity and silky tannins. Long and lush on the rich finish, which is filled with vibrant spicy notes.*



### Robert Parker (RP) : 94 Points (2011)

*The 2011 Pintas, the original flagship of the winery, is an old vines field blend aged in French oak (only 70% new; 30% second pass) for 20 months. As has become the pattern, this shows more depth than its more elegant new sibling (the Manoella Old Vines also reviewed this issue), but this year it is also a very bright and relatively (it is not Manoella!) elegant vintage in its own right. This is a vintage in which the wine should excel, and does. It is likely to be on the short list as a contender for the best Pintas yet, but it is too tight and unevolved at the moment, a bit hard to read (a comment that is true for many 2011s at the moment). So, let's be conservative just now and leave that conversation for a few years hence. In the meanwhile, it will soon be bursting with flavor. It is beautifully constructed, with crisp persistence on the finish and the promise of future development to come. It should come into better balance in time and it showed dramatic improvement the next day, still tightly wound after being open for a couple of hours on Day 2, but very focused and beautifully constructed. It comes in at 14.5% alcohol. There were 5,900 750ml bottles produced, along with some large format bottles. Drink 2015-2026.*

