

QUINTA DO
PORTAL
DOURO VALLEY
PORTUGAL

Porto, November 6th 2019

Dear Friends,

It's with immense joy that we announce the release of a new wine, **Quinta dos Muros M7 Unique Vineyard Parcel 2016**, that comes from a property that is very special to our family.

In fact **Quinta dos Muros** is a property that has been in the family for the last 139 years. A property of steep slopes and narrow valleys. Hard, difficult, but at the same time gorgeous, of unique beauty and charm, almost magic! It's easy to understand why, generation after generation, the family has fallen in love with it.

In there we spent a big part of our time as kids and teenagers, always surrounded by cousins and friends. In those endless Summers of our youth, we learned how to ride without saddle, hunted, fished and spent days swimming in the Pinhão river. There we had one thousand adventures!

It was in **Quinta dos Muros** that we fell in love with the Douro, and we grew for the vine and for the wine. We harvested, danced in the lagares and drunk of the simplicity and joy of the people that worked with us.

This wine has been a dream since we were 14, 15 years old, a dream that has finally come true. A wine full of identity, which makes us proud and honors the legacy that previous generations passed on to us.

In the beginning of the XX century our great uncle Francisco Mansilha (brother of the grandmother of our grandfather) wrote the following: *"Those who know how to look after the wines from Muros will be convinced by analysis and comparisons that there are no better in our country."*

We thank Paulo Coutinho, that during a stroll through the **M7** parcel had an epiphany and understood the potential of those plants, and all the field team that did a fantastic job recovering that vineyard, that was in the imminence of being pulled out.

Quinta dos Muros is located in the East slopes of the Pinhão river valley. The **M7** parcel, consisting of 8 terraces between 440 and 490 meters in altitude with a mostly Northwest exposure, has vineyards with an average age of 50 years, where we identified 29 different varieties, including 2 white grapes (Gouveio and Chasselas). The dominant grapes in the field blend are Tinta Barroca, Tinta Roriz, Touriga Franca, Tinta Carvalha and Mourisco.

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The "rebirth" of this parcel began with a stroll of Paulo through the parcel in 2016, with a closer and more detailed look, in an attempt to better understand the vines.

He really liked some of the oldest trunks and tasted some of the grapes and was amazed with their fantastic aromas and flavours. He came back with two more colleagues to taste all the 3.433 plants, classify them in terms of quality and mark the ones that shouldn't be picked. That was how the decision of what grapes to vinify in 2016 was made.

The 2016 wine is a bottling of only 1280 bottles of 750ml.

After the wine was made, we immediately decided to recover that parcel, instead of replanting it.

With the launch of the **M7** we also decided to change the concept of the **Quinta dos Muros Vintage Port**, a port that, like the **M7**, has a very unique identity and origin.

We shall have more news about this parcel and this wine at a later stage. For now, we raise our glasses with happiness!

Kindest regards,



João Mansilha Branco

Pedro Mansilha Branco

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