



Niepoort 'Chardonnay 2003

Projectos are small experiments where Niepoort tries out different paths to create other wines and shares the results with the wine lovers.

The greatest Chardonnays come from Burgundy (Chablis and Cotê dôr). The grapes for Projectos Chardonnay are from twenty years old vineyard planted at 750 meter of altitude. The wine is fermented and aged for 8-9 month in old oak casks.

Even though 2003 was a very hot vintage the objective was to make this Chardonnay as fine, light and elegant as possible. It has huge acidity which is very important for the "drinkability" factor and promises to make the wine very age worthy.

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Tasting Notes

In its youth it was austere, closed and monolithic. With hurting acidity.

After 2 years the wine is fresh, vibrant and expressive with good integration of wood.

It's a delicate wine with good richness "zinky" acidity and wonderful finish.

Vinification

2003 was a very hot dry year. In order to avoid an overripened style, grapes were harvested in beginning of September. The grapes were selected and then pressed and decanted for 24 hours. Fermentation was done in French oak casks, 50% new. The ageing is without malolactic fermentation to keep the natural freshness.

Technical Information

Product . Chardonnay White Wine
Producer . Niepoort (Vinhos) S.A.
Region . Douro
Year . 2003
Soil Type . Schist
Vineyards .
Average Vine Age . 15 -20 years
Grape Varieties . Chardonnay

Vines per Ha . 4500
Pruning Method . Guyot and Royat
Alt. from Sea level . 750 m
Harvest Period . September
Harvest Method . Hand picked
Malolactic . Without malolactic
Fermentation . French oak casks
Bottled . April 2004
Ageing . French oak casks (228l)

Dry Extract . 24.2 g/dm³
Alcohol . 12.85 % vol
Total Acidity . 7.40 g/dm³ Tartaric Acid
Volatile Acidity . 0.41 g/dm³ Acetic Acid
Ph . 3.19
Free SO₂ at Bottling . 38 mg/dm³
Production . 1500 bottles

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