

Decanter

PASSIONATE ABOUT WINE SINCE 1975

MARCH 2024

FRESH BUYS FOR SPRING

Portugal's exciting white wines, plus
25 perfect bottles for a long Sunday lunch



+
352
wines tasted
in this issue

Bordeaux 2021

retasted in bottle – plus the
best of southern Rhône 2022

Grand cru Argentina

The estate run by two of the wine
world's most powerful women

Tasted this month

Washington GSM blends
& McLaren Vale Grenache

Portuguese whites

Reflecting Portugal's diversity of terroirs and grapes, and increasing focus on freshness and balance, old vines in cool sites delivered the best results

REPORT SARAH AHMED

Portugal has an exceptional diversity of grape varieties and terroir, making this panel tasting a stylistic smorgasbord. The standard of the country's white wines has improved exponentially in the last decade. With a good 76% of wines here earning Highly recommended or Recommended ratings, the quality base was broad and the apex high (see 'The scores', below). Expect to drink well from Portugal and expect to drink interesting, food-friendly wines from native grapes, which tend to a dry, rather than fruit-driven, profile.

While structure, mouthfeel, intensity and specifics such as Atlantic-influenced saltiness (Bairrada, the Azores) pointed to region of origin, the panel struggled to identify regional typicity. Partly because this is an emergent, fast-growing category and winemaking approaches vary, but also because of numerous varietal and site permutations, especially where blends predominate. It all adds up to an oxymoronic common thread: Portugal's diversity. The upside is a rich mosaic to unpick.

Today's brighter wines make for a vivid array. Years ago, wines from warm, dry regions often suffered from low acidity but, said Jo Locke MW, the wines we tasted were 'certainly not flat, as in the past'. Whether from 2022 (hot and dry) or 2021 (mild and wet), this tasting's overall freshness and balance impressed. Hand in glove with higher acidity, more than 80% of the entries featured 13% alcohol by volume or less, which 'is a big change', remarked Nelson Guerreiro. Producers are picking grapes and selecting sites with freshness in mind.

Together with no or low(er) oak use – another major shift – wines to be lighter on their feet, more nuanced and pleasurable. Increased use of large-format and seasoned barrels for controlled oxygenation – as opposed to overt oak flavours – meant that

wood tended to be well integrated, enhancing structure and complexity. About a third of the wines entered were unoaked, but stainless steel is no longer the default – an uptick in concrete, cement and clay vessels (including Portugal's traditional talhas), brings the complexity of controlled oxygenation without added oak flavour or tannin.

Skin contact – pre, during and post-ferment – also contributed to complexity and phenolic mouthfeel, with the growing 'orange' wines niche sneaking into this 'white' tasting. If some of the entries were a tad outré, it is exciting to see the creativity. Although, cautioned Locke, 'the ones who know what's good to bottle are playing around more successfully than others'.

What should readers buy? The top five entries hail from low-yielding old vines or field blends in the Douro, Dão and Bairrada. Old vines and/or moderating factors such as the ocean (Bairrada, the Azores) and elevation (the Douro, Dão and Alentejo's Portalegre sub-region) produced particularly intense, structured examples. But old vines – look out for 'Vinhas Velhas' on labels – can also elevate wines from regions and varieties traditionally associated with quantity rather than quality – Fernão Pires from Tejo, for example.

Portugal is known as a source of cheap wine and this tasting fielded some good examples, mostly from southern regions, where fruit tends to be rounder and riper. Cheap is not, however, synonymous with value – no disappointment here, either. As Guerreiro noted, one doesn't 'pay more than €100 retail for top Portuguese whites so, compared with some top wines in world, they are remarkable value'. At £32-£48, our top five scorers from virtuoso winemakers remain within reach, representing smart buys for connoisseurs.

THE JUDGES



Sarah Ahmed is an awarded wine writer, educator and judge with a focus on Portugal. The DWWA Regional Chair for Portugal, she is a Cavaleiro of the Confraria do Vinho do Porto and writes a monthly column for *Revista de Vinhos*



Nelson Guerreiro is a certified sommelier currently working as brand ambassador for prominent Italian producers at renowned Portuguese merchant Garrafeira Nacional, as well as a wine educator at the Turismo de Portugal schools



Joanna Locke MW is a wine buyer for The Wine Society, responsible for sourcing wines from Alsace, the Loire and Portugal. Previously a buyer for Thresher group from 1991, she joined importer John E Fells in 2000, then moved to The Wine Society in 2004

Exceptional 98-100pts



Niepoort, Redoma Reserva Branco, Douro 2022

Sarah Ahmed 98
Nelson Guerreiro 97
Joanna Locke MW 98
£44-£47.90 AG Wines, Burnett & Herbert, Caviste, Hedonism, Uncorked, Wanderlust Wine
A field blend featuring Arinto, Rabigato, Códaga de Larinho, Viosinho and others, from vines at least 80 years old planted on schist at 600m in the Douro DOC. It was made (and the grapes were picked) to prioritise freshness, structure and minerality. A pioneer of Douro whites since the mid-nineties, Niepoort's trademark precision

and finesse shines, even in this century's driest vintage. **Sarah Ahmed** Toasty/cherry oak and lime oil to nose and palate. Zesty, nutty with leesy complexity and hazelnutty oak. Showing lots of layers already. **Nelson Guerreiro** Stone fruit, apple and pear nose with spice and a hint of vanilla. Medium-bodied with a waxy side, balanced with a pleasant finish. **Joanna Locke MW** Poised, with a strong seam of minerality and mouthwatering acidity. A smart wine with great potential. **Drink** 2024-2034 **Alcohol** 12%

Niepoort's Douro winery Quinta de Nápoles, near Marmelal in the Cima Corgo sub-region



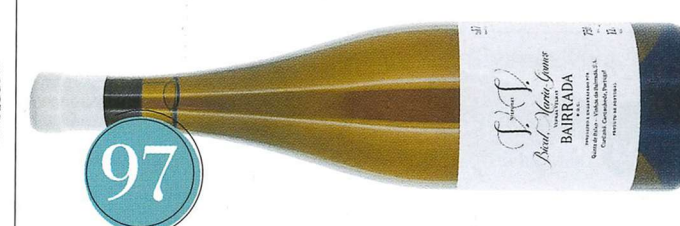
Outstanding 95-97pts



Filipa Pato, Nossa Calcário Bical, Bairrada 2022

SA 97 NG 97 JL 96
£32.75-£36.80 Hedonism, Lay & Wheeler, South Downs Cellars, The Good Wine Shop
Nossa Calcário ('our limestone') is a biodynamic 100% Bical from the 'grand cru' vineyard on the much-vaunted chalky clay soils around the village of Ois do Bairro, where Pato and husband William Wouters live and age wine in cellars under their home. Lissom, this would pair beautifully with sea bass,

the finest 'catch of the day' from the ocean, just 15km away. **SA** Oyster shell aromas and flavours, a little creamy with fresh acidity, herbal al-dente apricot and pingy chalk. **NG** Complex nose, notes of fermented tea, jasmine and pear. Nicely textured with good acidity well integrated. **JL** A touch of bruised apple, a little struck match reduction, yet taut and crisp, sappy acidity. **Drink** 2024-2031 **Alc** 12%



Niepoort - Quinta de Baixo, VV Vinhas Velhas, Bairrada 2017

SA 98 NG 96 JL 98
£38 AG Wines
Niepoort's pursuit of freshness finds its keenest expression in Bairrada. Impressed by the region's limestone soils and Atlantic climate, Dirk Niepoort has proclaimed it 'Portugal's best terroir'. The estate is farmed biodynamically and this field blend of Bical and Maria Gomes, from vines about 100 years old, is aged in 60-year-old 1,000L foudres from the Mosel.

SA Frisky acidity, savoury with a well-judged touch of nutty oak and an edge of brine to the long finish. A firm acid backbone brings an almost austere focus. **NG** Slightly phenolic on the nose, and showing some development. Medium-bodied with balanced acidity. **JL** Developed yet fresh with secondary aromas of apple pastry and custard, a fine core of acidity and excellent length. **Drink** 2024-2033 **Alc** 12% ▶

THE SCORES 109 wines tasted

Exceptional 1 Outstanding 4 Highly recommended 30 Recommended 55 Commended 17 Fair 2 Poor 0

Entry criteria: producers and UK agents were invited to submit their current-release dry white wines from any region in Portugal other than Vinho Verde, and produced using native Portuguese white grapes only, including single-varietal wines or blends



Wine & Soul, Guru, Cima Corgo, Douro 2022

SA 96 NG 95 JL 96
 £35.99-£41.50 **Highbury**
Vintners, JN Wine
 Sandra Tavares da Silva and Jorge Serôdio Borges first made Guru in 2004. It's stitched together from several tiny Cima Corgo old field blend parcels in Porrais at 600m-700m, and since then the couple have acquired more parcels, picked earlier and slashed the new oak (to just 9% in 2022). Taken by the minerality of their schist and granite soil, which smells of gunpowder, a new non-vintage Guru cuvée, NM, showcases tertiary complexity, while the project's Vinha da Calçada

highlights a single foudre-aged centenarian block.
SA Flinty mineral nose and palate, with rippling mineral acidity and zesty lime drive. Precise, persistent, good intensity, very complete; leaves you wanting more.
NG Very shy on the nose currently, apple and pear with some vanilla. Medium weight with low acidity.
JL Quiet and a little oak-subdued at present, with a touch of struck match, but carried to a long finish by pure, rapier-like acidity. An elegantly honed wine with potential.
Drink 2024-2030 Alc 12.5%



Rocim, O Estrangeiro Branco, Dão 2022

SA 96 NG 94 JL 95
 £39.75 **Bar Douro, Festa**
 The name 'the foreigner' alludes to the winemaker's origins - Pedro Ribeiro is best known for his Alentejo wines from Herdade do Rocim and Bojador, but the Dão fan acquired three vineyards there in 2020, around the villages of Gouveia, Nelas and Silgueiros. The 40- to 50-year-old field blend vineyards have only a splash of Encruzado (the Dão's best-known grape), but this, together with a 24-hour cold soak on skins and fermentation/ageing in seasoned 500L barrels accounts for the savoury profile.

SA Polished, integrated oak on the nose then an intense, involving palate, tight-knit but with layers. Bitter lemon, pine nuts, star fruit, firm pear and quince to the palate, with an edge of pear skin, light cedar and celery salt. Great finesse.
NG Not overly intense but still complex, some spices as well as hints of oak. On the palate the wine is dry, medium in body with moderate acidity.
JL Bright appearance, notes of hay bale and chalky minerality on the nose, then sappy, appetising acidity on the palate.
Drink 2024-2035 Alc 12.5%

Highly recommended 90-94pts



Azores Wine Co, Arinto dos Açores, Pico, Azores 2022

SA 92 NG 93 JL 94
 £32-£36.80 **Amathus Drinks, Hedonism**
 Bright lemon yellow, with sappy mineral aromas and exuberant intensity. Bruised apricot, juicy acidity and saline notes. Sleek palate with crunchy stone fruit and floral notes emerging. Textured and clean, with a saline finish. **Drink 2024-2028 Alc 12%**



Kopke, São Luiz Winemaker's Collection Folgazão & Rabigato, Douro 2019

SA 95 NG 95 JL 90
 £35 **Cambridge Wine Merchants**
 Tight on the nose with fennel spice, apple and pear fruit. Nutty oak, a touch briny, bringing energy to the palate, with brûlée, white peach and ripe, integrated grapefruit acidity. Crisp, intense, lipsmacking and delicious, with attention-snagging layers. A terrific buy. **Drink 2024-2028 Alc 13.5%**



Quinta do Noval, Reserva Branco, Douro 2022

SA 93 NG 92 JL 95
 £55-£60 **Berry Bros & Rudd, DBM Wines, House of Townend**
 Cheesy, waxy nose and palate, with toasty oak and hints of lanolin. Delicately perfumed with fresh yellow fruits. A dry palate, showing elegant barrel-fermented expression and appetising texture, with a fine seam of acidity through to a long finish. **Drink 2024-2028 Alc 13%**

'The standard of Portugal's white wines has improved exponentially in the last decade'

Sarah Ahmed



Taboadella, Encruzado Reserva, Dão 2022

SA 93 NG 91 JL 94
 £22.95 **Ellis Wines, Sommelier's Choice**
 Pear skin, ripe and dried apricot, lychee and spice. Nutty oak brings different flavour and texture, still with a sheath of lees. Creamy oak, yellow and white fruits, supported by sappy acidity, brassica undertones, and fine length. **Drink 2024-2029 Alc 13.5%**



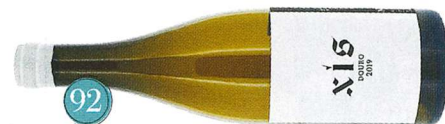
Malhadinha Nova, Antão Vaz da Malhadinha Vinha da Peceguina, Alentejo 2022

SA 92 NG 92 JL 92
 £32 **Ake & Humphris, Duncan Murray**
 Savoury aromas, touches of hay and woody herbs, lemony citrus, talc. Ginger and white pepper with lemon curd, grapefruit and guava. Subtle silky lees texture, a pristine, pillowy finish. **Drink 2024-2029 Alc 12.5%**



Mira do O, Teima, Alentejo 2021

SA 93 NG 90 JL 92
 £40 **Mother Vine, Palate Bottle Shop**
 Very shy on the nose, bright and sappy, with citric minerality. Green notes, jasmine flower and tea on the palate. Balanced acidity, persistent, with light white pepper and cedar riffs to the lifted finish. Lovely complexity. **Drink 2024-2030 Alc 12%**



Quinta da Carolina, Xis, Douro 2019

SA 92 NG 93 JL 92
 £34 **Wanderlust Wine**
 Lime oil and oak, fresh and precise, with the chalky dried herb notes of Malvasia on the nose. Cider-like character with some lime zest and fennel. Sorbet-like acidity, nutty oak, pineapple and pine nuts, quite austere at the core. **Drink 2024-2029 Alc 11.5%**



Santos & Seixo, Encosta do Sobral Grande Reserva Vinhas Velhas Fernão Pires, Tejo 2021

SA 95 NG 92 JL 90 US\$32 **Diniz Cellars**
 Cedar and cinnamon oak with a hint of citrus. Poached pear and white asparagus on a leesy, silky palate. Rich but with clean minerality and a lingering finish. Ambitious, weighty style. **Drink 2024-2028 Alc 13%**



Textura, Pura, Dão 2021

SA 92 NG 92 JL 92
 £33.20 **Justerini & Brooks**
 Developing colour and a burnish of toasty oak and fruit character on the nose. White asparagus, savoury poached salsify, pear skin, nectarine skin twang, creamy lees and toasted hazelnut to the finish. Satisfying and rich. **Drink 2024-2028 Alc 12.5%**



Cabeças do Reguengo, Respiro Lagar, Alentejo 2021

SA 93 NG 95 JL 84
 £25 **Marta Vine**
 Orange wine with flint and olives on the nose. A touch of tartness, clove and nutmeg, dried pineapple, apricot, peach tea. The acidity keeps it animated. A gastronomic style. **Drink 2024-2030 Alc 11.6%**



Global Wines, Cabriz Colheita Seleccionada Branco, Dão 2022

SA 93 NG 89 JL 90
 US\$12-\$15 **City Vino, Linwood, Rio Hill, Vinechain**
 Complex nose, delicate and creamy. Resin, eucalyptus nuances with sweet oak. Earthy asparagus and a certain pungency of bitter lemon fruit. Lots of character and interest at this price point. **Drink 2024-2028 Alc 12.5%**



Ilha do Pico, Frei Gigante, Pico, Azores 2018

SA 93 NG 89 JL 92
 £35 **Ad Hoc Wine Shop, A Portuguese Love Affair, Curious Liquids**
 Crisp, mineral, parma violet aromatic perfume, amaretto biscuits and kernel. Iodine and kelp, salty sea air. Distinctive, persistent, long. **Drink 2024-2027 Alc 13%**



Quinta da Pedra Alta, Pedra a Pedra Branco, Douro 2022

SA 90 NG 90 JL 94
 £15.75-£17.95 **Bancroft, Cellar Door Wines, ND John, qpawines.co.uk, The Artisan Wine & Spirit Co**
 Restrained, flinty, white floral nose, stone fruits and citrus. Racy and chalky, pebbly minerals. Interesting lees-aged style, likely to improve. **Drink 2024-2030 Alc 11.5%**



Quinta do Portal, Grande Reserva, Douro 2020

SA 93 NG 89 JL 90
 £50 **ABS Wine Agencies**
 Nose of bruised apple, sappy freshness and camomile. Tart and austere with a touch of pithiness, a firm quince sweetness, dried flowers and textured finish, which is long and complex. **Drink 2024-2028 Alc 13.5%**



Rocim, Olho de Mocho Branco, Vidigueira, Alentejo 2022

SA 93 NG 90 JL 90
 £29.75 **Bar Douro**
 Mineral fresh and tight nose, delicate white flowers. Ginger, star anise, lemon thyme, a gently leesy texture. A touch of putty, cedar and honeycomb oak. Lingering, slow-burn style. **Drink 2024-2029 Alc 12.5%**



Rola Wines, Rola de Branco Reserva, Douro 2021

SA 93 NG 90 JL 89
£25-£27 Connolly's, Glug, Hoults, Lancaster Wine Co, Latitude Wines, The Good Wine Shop
Yellow stone fruit and lychee aromas, a lick of preserved ginger. Nice body and tension, good fruit and savoury oak. Harmonious richness with mineral and acid balance. **Drink 2024-2028 Alc 12.9%**



Textura, Da Estrela Branco, Dão 2021

SA 90 NG 95 JL 89
£23.20 Justerini & Brooks
Fruit-driven, some lemon-lime, fennel and ginger aromas and tart burnished apple on the nose. Dry with vivid acidity and textured oak. Well integrated with hints of grainy pear and white chocolate. Creamy, long and intense. **Drink 2024-2035 Alc 12.5%**



Vale da Capucha, Cedro Alvarão, Torres Vedras, Lisboa 2018

SA 93 NG 90 JL 89
£32.49 Les Caves de Pyrene
Baked citrus and fresh cheese aromas, a toasty edge. Briny and tangy with a hint of citrus pith. Jura-like with a sweetness of nectarine and peachy fruit, fresh, focused acidity. Persistent and mouthwatering finish. **Drink 2024-2029 Alc 13%**



Aphros Wine, Phaunus Loureiro, Minho 2021

SA 92 NG 87 JL 90
£25.49-£27 Cellar Next Door, Hector's Fine Wine, Les Caves de Pyrene, Philglas & Swiggot, Sip Wines
Orange style, with blossom and cedar on the nose. A racy freshness and the varietal vegetal, bay and conifer leaf qualities of Loureiro. **Drink 2024-2028 Alc 10.5%**



Azores Wine Co, Canada do Monte, Pico, Azores 2019

SA 92 NG 89 JL 90
£96.50 Amathus Drinks
Rich nose, with toasted nuts and a touch of cheese rind. Smooth with a mineral prickle on the palate. Phenolic, saffron, toast, orange peel, camomile. A broad, bruised apple finish. **Drink 2024-2026 Alc 12.5%**



Espaço Rural, Bojador Reserva Branco, Alentejo 2022

SA 91 NG 89 JL 90
£21.75 Davy's
Smoky, savoury aromas with peach, apricot, white flowers and spices. Ripe and citrusy with lemon rind, nutty lees, a creamy tinned peach tang. Fresh fluidity with fine balance and length. **Drink 2024-2028 Alc 12.5%**



Herdade da Candeeira, Reserva Branco, Alentejo 2021

SA 88 NG 89 JL 93
2023-2028
POA \$ MS Walker
Tropical ripe fruit with precise yet delicate aromas of biscuity oak. Ripe citrus and nougat palate with good concentration and structure. A touch of toast on the finish. **Drink 2024-2028 Alc 13%**



Julio Bastos, Dona Maria Arinto, Alentejo 2021

SA 92 NG 90 JL 87
POA \$ MS Walker
Delicately scented oak with hints of smokiness. Citrus-rich palate with lemon curd and lemon meringue pie flavours on the palate. Off-dry with a crisp and chalky finish. **Drink 2024-2028 Alc 13.5%**



Julio Bastos, Dona Maria Branco, Alentejo 2022

SA 92 NG 89 JL 90
US\$18 B-21, Mr D, MS Walker
Fresh and tropical, white and yellow fruits on the nose, like fruit salad. Even delivery, with control and restraint, nicely integrated lees, balanced and consistent to the finish. **Drink 2024-2027 Alc 12.5%**



Luis Pato, Vinha Formal Bical, Bairrada 2021

SA 92 NG 88 JL 90
£30 Beckford Bottle Shop, Hedonism, Theatre of Wine
Perfumed, spiced apple nose, hints of fresh citrus. A strong vein of acidity, good salinity with a chalky texture and strong sense of lees. Green almond nuttiness, marzipan and fresh apricot. **Drink 2024-2028 Alc 13%**



Malhadinha Nova, Verdelho da Malhadinha Vinha da Peceguina, Alentejo 2022

SA 90 NG 90 JL 87
£32 Raymond Reynolds
Bright yellow fruits, peach, mango and fennel. Fresh acidity, good varietal typicity, with notes of star fruit and white asparagus. Has a vegetal attractiveness and gentle persistence. **Drink 2024-2027 Alc 12%**



Mira do O, Druida Reserva Encruzado, Dão 2021

SA 87 NG 91 JL 93
£36 Mother Vine, The Secret Bottle Shop
A nose of citrus, pineapple and bitter lemon, like an old-fashioned lemonade. Lean with good tension on the palate, freshness and precision on a long finish. **Drink 2024-2028 Alc 12%**



Quinta da Boavista, Vinha do Levante, Douro 2020

SA 92 NG 91 JL 88
£40 Harrods
Bright stone fruit, peach, apple and pear aromas. Crisp and dry with a phenolic edge, structured. Nutty oak and a touch of smoke on a slinky palate. Apricot and pineapple richness, the oak impactful but still showing the fruit. **Drink 2024-2030 Alc 13%**



Rocim, Mariana Branco, Alentejo 2022

SA 89 NG 90 JL 92
£12.49-£13.15 Fintry Wines, Hallgarten Wines, Shelved Wine, Strictly Wine, Symposium, Wine Poole
Very ripe tropical fruits, peach and mango, and a discreet hint of passion fruit. Balanced with a gentle texture and juicy acidity. Fine length. **Drink 2024-2026 Alc 12.5%**



Santos & Seixo, Encosta do Sobral Reserva Branco, Tejo 2022

SA 90 NG 90 JL 90
US\$16 Diniz Cellars
Restrained on the nose with sweetly spiced oak. Cinnamon, nutmeg, orange pith, apricot and citrus blossom. Clean-cut and well made. **Drink 2024-2026 Alc 13%**

Recommended 86-89pts

Wine	Score	SA	NG	JL	Tasting note	Alc	Drink	Price	Stockists
Adega de Colares, Arenae Malvasia Branco, Lisboa 2020	89	87	89	90	Vegetal, spicy with ginger, white pepper, cardamom and pear. Rounded with a strong, saline streak on the finish.	12%	2024-2028	£43.80/50cl	Clark Foyster
Falua, Conde Vimioso Sommelier Branco, Tejo 2022	89	88	91	89	Pronounced orange blossom, with citrus fruit and peel. A nicely modulated wine with cool, white orchard fruits.	12.5%	2024-2026	US\$25	Barsha Wines & Spirits, Friends of the Vine, Wine Exchange
Herdade dos Grous, Concrete, Alentejo 2021	89	88	89	89	Tight and bright with apple freshness and some floral notes. Fresh citrus palate, subtle chalky texture.	13.5%	2024-2028	£38.20	Marta Vine
Mingorra, Colheita Branco, Alentejo 2022	89	83	91	92	Lemon thyme, white flowers, hay and tropical fruits - mango and pineapple, apricot and peach. Refreshing.	12.5%	2024-2025	£14.99	Marta Vine
Quinta de Chocapalha, Arinto, Lisboa 2021	89	89	89	90	Delicate white florals. Crisp citrus, green apple on the palate. A citrus pip sharpness and persistent, fresh finish.	12.5%	2024-2027	£13.50-£16	Corney & Barrow, Hic, Highbury Vintners, JN Wine, Shelved Wine
Quinta do Paral, Vinhas Velhas, Alentejo 2017	89	90	88	90	Nose of beeswax, apricot and quince, toasty with a custard creaminess to the palate, opens up with interest.	14%	2024-2028	£46.95	The Drinksmith
Quinta do Piloto, Collection Roxo, Setúbal 2021	89	88	87	92	Highly scented and grapey, orange blossom and Turkish delight. Crisp, pomegranate and cranberry juice notes.	13.5%	2024-2026	£21	Butlers Wine Cellar
Ravasqueira, Guarda Rios Branco, Alentejo 2022	89	88	93	86	Smoky, flinty nose. Citrus and juicy pineapple, with a touch of tart acidity. Generous texture, round and clean.	13%	2024-2026	£9	ABS Wine Agencies
Soito, Estate White, Dão 2022	89	88	89	90	Fresh, sappy and mineral, hints of dried herbs. Sour lemon, cedar and a touch of earthy asparagus.	12.5%	2024-2028	£22.25	Hallgarten Wines, Strictly Wine
Taboadella, Villae, Dão 2022	89	93	84	90	Wild herbs, white flowers with pear skin, ripe and dried apricot. Lychee and spice with sophisticated lees texture.	13.5%	2024-2030	£18.55	Ellis Wines, Sommelier's Choice
Uncondemned, Ourem, Lisboa 2021	89	92	86	88	Lavender, herbs and spices, clove-studded orange peel and pithy bitter orange. Complex with a dusty finish.	14.5%	2024-2028	£21	A Portuguese Love Affair, Kenrick's Wines
Adega de Cantanhede, Conde Reserva, Bairrada 2021	88	85	90	89	Lemon thyme and creamy, burnished citrus. Tart apple, matcha tea and mandarin. A nice bitterness to finish.	13.5%	2022-2027	£24	OPS Wines
Adega de Penalva, Indigena Branco, Dão 2022	88	89	86	89	Lemony freshness, clean with a touch of chalk and taut minerals. Uncluttered, but well drawn at the price point.	12.5%	2024-2026	£13.50	Yield London
Aldeia de Cima, Reserva Branco, Alentejo 2021	88	88	92	85	Gentle yellow and white stone fruit with tropical hints. Stem ginger and warm spices with creamy softness.	13.5%	2024-2027	£24	Sommelier's Choice
Cabeças do Reguengo, Equinócio, Alentejo 2021	88	86	88	90	Ripe quince, peach, thyme and fennel. Medicinal herb undertones, a dry palate lifted by a strong vein of acidity.	13%	2024-2027	£35	Marta Vine