





The Touriga Franca vineyards (foreground) in the Valdossa section of Malvedos

#### THE PROPERTY

Quinta dos Malvedos has been the cornerstone of Graham's Vintage Ports ever since it was acquired in 1890. The estate still contains large areas of traditional vineyard laid out on terraces supported by dry-stone walls, built by hand in the 18th century.

The 160-hectare estate is particularly well-sited in a zone of transition from the Cima Corgo to the Douro Superior subregions of the Douro Valley, bringing together the best of both, it enjoys reasonable rainfall and abundant sunshine. The vineyard is predominantly south-facing and the ample hours of sunlight provide even and complete grape ripening, resulting in very well-balanced wines.

#### THE YEAR

We had a very dry and mild winter and spring, and by late summer the vines were in need of water to keep maturations on track. Fortunately, the virtual absence of rain from May to late August was counterbalanced by cooler summer conditions, and we also benefited at Malvedos from exceptionally well-timed rain at the end of August (22mm), which made a real difference, two weeks before the vintage was due to start. Then, halfway through the harvest, over the weekend of September 21st, we had some further useful showers bringing just the right amount of rain, which fine-tuned the Touriga Nacional and proved critical for the complete ripening of the Touriga Franca.

The cooler harvest translated into comparatively lower concentration than we've seen in recent vintages and yields were closer to normal following the very small years of 2017 and 2018. Expressive aromas and freshness are the hallmarks of the 2019 wines.



A view of the stone terraces vineyards at Malvedos



The Malvedos lagar winery, where all the property's wines are made





# THE WINE

### TASTING NOTE

A great Malvedos with typical minty aomas and undertones of cacao and berry fruits. The mouth has a firm tannic structure and succulent blackberry flavours. A bold, powerful wine promising many years in bottle. A true Malvedos thoroughbred.

### WINE SPECIFICATION

Alcohol by volume: 20% v/v (20°C) Total acidity: 4.8 (g/l) Baumé: 3.7° pH: 3.68 Bottled: May 2021 (no filtration) Winemakers: Charles Symington and Henry Shotton

#### WINE NOTES

Although Touriga Nacional took centre stage in much of the Douro Valley in 2019, at Malvedos it played second fiddle to Touriga Franca, a variety that almost invariably performs extremely well at Quinta dos Malvedos (it was also the main component in the 2018 Malvedos Vintage Port and in the back-toback classic Vintage declarations of 2016 and 2017. This Touriga Franca was drawn mainly from the mature Valdossa vineyards, planted in the mid-1980s. The highly valued stone terraces parcels (old, field-blended vines) are also an important component of this 2019, contributing superb depth and complexity to the wine.

## **GRAPE VARIETY COMPOSITION**

TOURIGA FRANCA: 52% | TOURIGA NACIONAL: 28% OLD, MIXED VINES (FROM THE STONE TERRACES PARCELS): 15% | SOUSÃO: 5%

