

**LEGADO**  
DOURO  
*Juan Pons*  
2011

*“Legado is more  
than a wine:  
it bears testament to  
the knowledge and wisdom  
passed on to me by my  
father, which I now bestow  
on the future generations  
of our family.”*

  
Fernando Guedes

## LEGADO 2011, DOURO DOC

It may seem like something out of a fairy tale, but its true origins tell us so much more. *Legado* is born of the passage of time, of the desire and ambition to tell a story with real substance. Today, seven years after this dream became reality, the same vision is determined and embodied in a new vintage – **Legado 2011**.

Fernando Guedes found the true essence of the knowledge, passion and values inherited from his father, Fernando Van Zeller Guedes – Sogrape's founder – in a unique plot of old vines in Quinta do Caedo. A symbol of tradition, and a tribute to the passing of the leadership torch within the family business, Legado is a wine with a character all of its own. Vinified at Quinta da Leda in the Douro Superior, it is the culmination of the head of the family's determination and dedication coupled with the vast knowledge of a team of renowned viticulturists and oenologists who were quick to recognise the idea's potential and eager to take up the challenge laid down by Fernando Guedes. Thirty months after ageing in new French oak barrels, this wine aspires to perfection as the authentic and true expression of a Vinha Velha (old vineyard) as it is launched onto the market.

In the words of Fernando Guedes, who has given his all to the project since 2008, "Legado 2011 is, just like its three predecessors, a return to its origins, to where it all began. It is a tribute to my father's visionary spirit and the audacity behind the idea that was the most innovative of its time."

Recalling observations shared with Luís Sottomayor, chief oenologist at Sogrape Vinhos for the Douro region, he adds: "2011 was a truly fascinating year, and the more I taste this wine the more confidently I can say that it is the best Legado ever."

A vivid portrayal of the Douro region, Legado 2011 exhibits remarkable class, complexity and elegance. And if every wine represents a style, a profile, a brand, Legado embodies emotions immortalised in a story, a journey into the past. Yet it is a wine with its sights firmly set on the future!







## **A GREAT WINE IS BORN IN THE VINEYARD**

Quinta do Caedo, located up river from Pinhão, in Ervedosa, was acquired by Sogrape Vinhos in 1990. Of the 24 hectares of vineyard scattered across both banks of the stream, of particular note are the 8 hectares of truly stunning old vines. The magnificent spectacle of the pre-phyloxera terraces in the form of a natural amphitheatre is enough to inspire awe in even the most jaded observer. It was this beguiling setting epitomising past times that inspired Fernando Guedes to create a wine symbolising the passing of the torch to future generations.

It is said that great wines are born in the vineyard, and therefore no effort should be spared to create the perfect balance of conditions. At Quinta do Caedo's old vineyard with its plantation of vines dating back over 100 years, the grapes are naturally harvested by hand, and the terraces remain untouched by heavy machinery. Some vineyards simply have a personality of their own, and deserve to be cherished! Accordingly, all the vineyard tasks are carried out by hand and the honest labour of beasts of burden. Over an area of eight hectares, with many vines producing as little as one or two bunches and an average harvest of less than 0.5 kg per vine, that balance becomes even more crucial, and every step which contributes to this harmony is essential.

Thanks to its west-facing orientation, the Vinha Velha (old vineyard) which so inspired Fernando Guedes, enjoys excellent exposure, with abundant and generous sunlight. The grape varieties, which date back to ancient times, include the classics Touriga Franca and Touriga Nacional, but a recent study also identified varieties such as Rufete, Tinta Amarela, Sousão, Tinta da Barca, Tinta Roriz, Tinto Cão and Donzelinho.



*History comes to life*



## **VALUES. ALWAYS THE STRENGTH AND POWER OF VALUES.**

Fernando Guedes says that his decision to retire at the age of 70 was helped by the peace of mind knowing that Sogrape's future would remain in good hands. "The best hands in fact," as he recognised in his own sons the ideal candidates, both in terms of technical qualifications and motivation, to take over the reins of the business. Today, he smiles as he reflects at how right the time has proven to be: "The company has never stopped growing and evolving thanks to the drive and competence of a management team which successfully combines the traditions and values of a family business with the focus on innovation demanded by the highly competitive modern markets," he explains.

There is no mistaking the pride he feels in the achievements of his three sons at the head of Sogrape – "all different characters, but each highly competent in his own field" – or how happy he is to see that the principles and values taught to him by his father, Sogrape's visionary founder Fernando van Zeller Guedes, from 1942 onwards, remain alive and thrive in the third generation.

Fernando Guedes is the eldest of the seven children of Fernando van Zeller Guedes and Maria Amália Cabral Lopo de Vasconcelos van Zeller Guedes. Born on 29 December 1930 at Quinta da Avelada, a family property, he attended Brotero College in Foz do Douro and Caldinhas College in Santo Tirso before a brief stint at the Lisbon Faculty of Economics in Quelhas.

In 1952 he asked his father to let him join Sogrape, where he began work as an "apprentice cooper". Three years later, he travelled to France to attend the Faculty of Sciences at Dijon University, to become one of the first three Portuguese students to graduate in Oenology.

After returning to Lisbon, he was married in 1956 to Ana Mafalda Maria Antónia de Mello Falcão Trigoso da Cunha Mendonça e Menezes, with whom he had three sons: Salvador, Manuel Pedro and Fernando, the current CEO of Sogrape Vinhos.

In 1957, he was appointed Technical Director for Production, extensively expanding and modernising Sogrape's infrastructure throughout the country. In 1969 he joined the company's board of directors, becoming chairman in 1987 following the death of his father and going on to play a crucial role in the formation of the massively successful business group which Sogrape was destined to become.

At the turn of the century, aged 70, he decided the time was right to retire and hand over the reins to the younger generation. The rest is history!







## A FAMILY STORY.

A family business founded by Fernando Van Zeller Guedes in 1942, Sogrape has its origins in the visionary idea of creating a new Portuguese wine for the international market: rosé in colour, fresh and versatile, Mateus is today the most widely exported Portuguese wine in the country's history.

United from the beginning by the terroir and the wine, by tradition tempered with an appetite for innovation, by a shared passion which grew into a business, Sogrape has always been defined by the strength of its values, the importance of family and the enduring ethics which guide it along the road to success.

Over the course of more than 70 years of history, with three different generations at the helm, Sogrape's strategy has weathered many tides, but this ever more robust ship has never lacked the ambition and respect needed to keep on pursuing its goals. Indeed, everyone involved is convinced that it was precisely these different interpretations and contributions to the company's success, anchored in stable and timeless values that have helped this small wine business from northern Portugal, to become one of the world's greatest wineries<sup>1</sup>.

The company's founder, Fernando Van Zeller Guedes, used to say "first we make friends, then we do business." It is a philosophy which opened the door to the world, and one which his son, Fernando Guedes, has worked hard to consolidate. Increasing Sogrape's assets, creating value and nurturing the company's growth was the challenge faced by the second generation. Subsequently, Salvador Guedes took charge of Sogrape's international development and growth as an increasingly global enterprise, while maintaining the same high standards and spirit on which it was founded in 1942.

Sogrape was born as a family business, and throughout its remarkable history it has remained true to its roots.

Now, the mission of Fernando, Salvador's brother and the current representative of the third generation and head of the company, is to focus on achieving continued healthy and sustainable growth. As he is fond of saying, "We have everything we need to triumph with our wine!"

Fernando Guedes senior, has confidence in Sogrape's future, and to this day, after more than six decades devoted to wine, still keeps a close eye on the company's activities. Inspired by his father and proud of the leadership of his children, he is delighted that his eldest granddaughter Mafalda is the first of ten grandchildren to join the family business. She will probably be followed by others, "on merit, not by entitlement or inheritance."

After all, that is precisely what Legado is: the symbol and testimony of a family which found the true expression of its values in a century-old Douro vineyard.

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<sup>1</sup> In 2015, Sogrape Vinhos was voted best winery of the year by the World Association of Wine and Spirits Writers and Journalists.



*In the fullness of time*



SOGRAPE  
VINHOS

LEGADO  
DOURO

*Fernando Mendes*

## Legado 2008 Douro Red DOC

### **Harvest year**

Relatively dry and mild, 2008 was marked by a winter with little rainfall and slightly below average temperatures. In April and May, precipitation exceeded the average values for any of the Douro sub-regions. Maturation was influenced by below average temperatures, with differences of around 4°C and frequent precipitation.

### **Tasting notes**

The wine is deep ruby in colour, with a bouquet of great complexity and intensity, featuring clear mineral notes and a prominent balsamic aroma – particularly truffles and sous-bois. Spicy, with pepper and curry notes, there is also some red fruit such as plum and blueberry. The oak, of excellent quality, is very well integrated. The palate is marked by lively acidity, firm, textured tannins and a pronounced minerality. The finish is long, complex and harmonious.

### **Ageing**

Aged for around 24 months in new French oak barrels.

**Total production:** 3.000 bottles

## Legado 2009 Douro Red DOC

### **Harvest year**

The 2009 vintage was marked by lower than average precipitation, with significant effects on the months of November, March and May. The temperature was slightly higher than average, although the onset of winter and the month of April were significantly colder. In general, 2009 was a dry year, with less water available for plants, and mild temperatures. The harvest was marked by an extremely hot and dry summer, reaching its peak in August. Consequently, maturation was very fast in certain areas (low-lying and south/west-facing vineyards), resulting in deeply coloured and concentrated wines. In more sheltered locations and at higher altitudes, maturation was balanced, producing harmonious wines with good aromatic intensity and excellent tannins.

### **Tasting notes**

Deep ruby in colour, this wine offers excellent intensity and a complex bouquet. Dried fruits such as fig and prune stand out, as do balsamic truffle and sous-bois. Spicy pepper and curry notes, good minerality and well integrated oak are typical features of this wine, which offers great elegance and harmony on the palate. The finish is very long, complex and balanced, with very lively acidity and prominent spices.

### **Ageing**

Aged for around 24 months in new French oak barrels.

**Total production:** 4.500 bottles

## Legado 2010 Douro Red DOC

### **Harvest year**

The 2010 vintage will always be remembered above all, for its cold and very wet winter. This inclement weather helped to restore soil humidity, an important element for proper vine growth and grape maturation. Rainfall and low temperatures over the course of the year led to a slight delay in the vines' growth cycle. What is more, the lack of rain in July and August, combined with very high temperatures, resulted in a degree of variability in the maturation process and a late start to the harvest, which lasted longer and required careful management as a result.

### **Tasting notes**

Ruby in colour, with a remarkably complex bouquet, this wine exhibits spicy notes including truffle, sous-bois, pepper and cinnamon. Red fruits such as cherry and redcurrant are prominent, alongside balsamic dried herb and tea notes. Mineral notes, with very elegant oak, the palate offers great volume, harmony and character. The lively acidity makes for a fresh and intense wine. The finish is long, with a great deal of elegance and complexity.

### **Ageing**

Aged for around 30 months in new French oak barrels.

**Total production:** around 5.700 bottles

## Legado 2011 Douro Red DOC

### **Harvest year**

The 2011 vintage was marked by a rainy winter which helped replenish the water tables. However, spring brought two spikes in temperature: one in April and another, more pronounced, in May, giving rise to the phenomenon known as tropical nights, which produced some thunderstorms. June and July were rather dry months, with relatively low temperatures. Despite some temperature variation in August, these conditions, combined with a warm, dry September permitted a very balanced and prolonged maturation period, resulting in grapes of excellent quality at the end of the growth cycle.

### **Tasting notes**

Ruby in colour, with good depth, this wine features a remarkably harmonious bouquet. Prominent notes include asparagus, artichoke and shrubs, alongside fully ripe black fruit such as plum. The complex aroma also comprises dried fruits such as fig, and spices, in particular pepper. With pronounced minerality and very well integrated oak, the palate offers good acidity resulting in outstanding freshness, combined with top quality silky tannins in perfect integration. A wine with a strong personality and a very rich finish.

### **Ageing**

Aged for around 30 months in new French oak barrels.

**Total production:** around 4.400 bottles



SOGRAPE  
VINHOS



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*Art de Vivre*

Be responsible. Drink in moderation.