

2012 Quinta do Noval Vintage Port

Quinta do Noval declared vintage 2012

Managing Director Christian Seely explained the decision: "If we consider that a year has produced a great wine, if the quality is there, then we declare — regardless of whether or not there are significant stocks in cellars or whether the market is hot or cold. **We learned from the 1931. As a result, we have an almost eccentric compulsion, driven by history and conviction** — and simply doing what the wine tells us to do."

"This is one of the few vintage Ports declared in 2012 and it's wonderfully structured with finesse. It's black-colored and shows intense aromas of crushed grapes, granite stones, flowers, light raisins, tar and licorice. Full body, lightly sweet and incredible integrity plus firm and ultra-refined tannins. Beautiful grip and length. Reminds me of the 1964, which is a classic now. Try in 2028." **94 Points James Suckling**

"Lucid purple/ruby in color, the first thing to strike you is the purity on the nose. There is a surfeit of fresh fig, prune and raisin that actually brings to mind a more tempered Fonseca. It is beautifully defined, not the most complex Noval, but seemingly approachable just like the 2011. The palate is well endowed with plenty of tangy, very spicy dark plums and blackcurrant fruit, a healthy dash of cracked black pepper and a very animated, attacking finish that is determined to make an impression, if not to be overshadowed by the 2011. This is a superb addition to recent Noval releases, one that I perhaps would broach earlier than others. Just 1,000 cases for this limited release." **92 Points Wine Advocate**

"The dark, almost black color and the wonderful violet aromas set the scene for this complex, dense and textured wine. It has a touch of spice, along with the rich plum and dark berry fruits. While it is rich, it is also a dry style of Vintage, bringing out structure as much as opulence." **95 points Wine Enthusiast**