

Churchill's



CHURCHILL'S ESTATES GRAFITE RED 2021

Founded in 1981 by winemaker Johnny Graham, who represents the 5TH generation of his family to make wine in the Douro Valley. Churchill's remains a family-owned independent producer. We produce wines using NATIVE GRAPE VARIETIES from the Douro region with the aim of expressing the unparalleled richness of this diverse and extreme terroir. The name Grafite acknowledges our WINEMAKERS' ARTISTIC SIGNATURE in these HAND-CRAFTED WINES.

JUICY-BERRIES-BALANCED

Grafite red is our elegant interpretation of a classic Douro red. It shows aromas of wild flowers and dark berries, with soft tannins and a hint of spice on the finish.

SOURCING

Produced from grapes grown on our estates located in the Cima Corgo and Douro Superior sub-regions of the Douro Valley.

TASTING NOTES

Rich deep violet colour. On the nose, delicate aromas of forest floor and pine needles. Fresh and well balanced on the palate, with lovely flavours of dry spices.

THE YEAR

The viticultural year of 2021 can be considered normal and dry. The rainy throughout the winter and in April allowed the vineyards to develop with enough water reserves until reaching August, when the impact of the very dry months of July and August created hydric stress to the plants. During harvest, we experienced several days of rain, with the vineyards recovering a part of their water level resources. On the overall, the yields in 2021 are slightly above the average for the last 10 years and the wines produced are fresher and slightly less alcoholic but with good quality, balance and intensity.

WINEMAKING NOTES

The areas of vineyard or "talhões" chosen depend on which grape varieties are most favoured by the climatic conditions of the year. The grapes are hand-picked into small boxes of approx. 20 kilos and brought to the winery where they undergo a careful selection process before being crushed. The vinification takes place in small stainless steel fermentation tanks. The grapes are fully destemmed and crushed. After 4 days of cold maceration the fermentation process follows under temperature-controlled conditions. The juice is gently pumped over the skins during fermentation which is long and even ensuring good aromatic and polyphenolic extraction.

AGEING

About 30% of this wine is aged for 12 months in both new and used French oak casks; the remaining part is kept in stainless steel vats to maintain its fruity character combined with the oak complexity from the wines in casks. It is fined and lightly filtered before bottling.

SERVING

Serve at room temperature (16-18°C).

TECHNICAL INFORMATION

REGION

Douro.

PRODUCER

Churchill's.

WINEMAKING

John Graham and Ricardo Pinto Nunes.

GRAPE VARIETIES

Touriga Nacional, Touriga Franca and Tinta Roriz.

BOTTLE SIZES

Available in 75cl.

BOTTLE WEIGHT

420g (75cl)

ALCOHOL

13.5 %

RESIDUAL SUGAR

< 3 g/l

QUALITY

We practice sustainable agricultural methods certified by the SATIVA institute.

