

## 2022 QUINTA DO TUA VINHAS VELHAS VINTAGE PORT



Founded in 1820 by William and John Graham in Portugal's Douro Valley, for two centuries Graham's has cultivated its reputation as one of the greatest names in Port. The quality of Graham's Port relies on the finest grapes, primarily sourced from five iconic quintas in the Douro Valley: Quinta dos Malvedos, Quinta do Tua, Quinta das Lages and two others, Quinta da Vila Velha and Quinta do Vale de Malhadas, which are privately owned by members of the Symington family.

### THE WINE

Quinta do Tua takes its name from the river Tua and is located on the confluence of this tributary with the Douro River. The original section of the vineyard is mostly laid out on a west-facing slope behind the quinta house and is characterised by massive stone terraces where the property's old, mixed vines are planted. The west-facing aspect concentrates the afternoon sunlight, and some heat is radiated from the metre-wide schist walls even after the sun has gone down, providing for perfect ripening that delivers full, rich wines of great complexity. The vineyard is very low yielding, which is conducive to wines of fabulous concentration and intensity. The wines from Tua are an important component of Graham's classic Vintage Ports in declared years, and this 2022 is the first time we have made a Vintage Port entirely from the property's old vines.

### YEAR AND HARVEST OVERVIEW

The three months leading up to the vintage were among the hottest and driest ever recorded in the Douro, with a succession of heatwaves, unprecedented in their scope and duration. We had 55% less rainfall at Tua than the 30-year average and the soils were visibly parched. However, it was quite extraordinary just how well the vines were looking with few vineyards showing signs of hydric stress - a testament to their resilience and adaptability to harsh conditions. Once again, we broke our record for the earliest ever starting vintage, beginning to pick from August 22nd. September brought a considerable drop in temperatures both by day and by night, and the importance of this cannot be overstated, easing the strain on the vines, and providing propitious conditions for maturations to progress. It is incredible that the Douro has come through such trying conditions, delivering wines at a level of quality that many would not have believed possible at the start of the vintage.

Charles Symington, Douro, October 2022

### WINEMAKERS

Charles Symington and Bernardo Nápoles.

### TASTING NOTE

Extraordinary concentration and intensity, a wine of incredible depth that gradually reveals layer upon layer of sensory delights. The profusion of aromas ranges from black to red fruits with a hint of mango wrapped in between providing fresh, aromatic vitality. Delicate traces of maple syrup add to the wealth of aromas. Very substantial on the palate, showing compact, ripe black fruit wrapped in peppery tannins that underwrite the impressive structure. A truly transcendental, age worthy wine.

*Symington tasting room, Spring 2024*

### PROVENANCE · GRAPE VARIETIES

Graham's Quinta do Tua: made with grapes sourced entirely from field-blended old vines, planted on the terraces supported by drystone walls.

### STORAGE · SERVING · FOOD PAIRING

Store the bottle horizontally, ideally in a cool place with a constant temperature. Decant before serving, ideally a few hours beforehand. An excellent dessert wine to enjoy on its own or with chocolate desserts. A very good match with blue cheeses.

### WINE SPECIFICATION

Alcohol: 20% (v/v 20°C)  
Total Acidity: 4.50 g/L (tartaric acid)  
Baumé: 3.93°  
pH: 3.59  
Allergy advice: Contains sulphites  
Compatible with vegetarian and vegan diets