

LUIS PATO

(BAIRRADA, CURIA, BEIRAS REGION, CENTRAL PORTUGAL)

www.luispato.com



Luis Pato
WINEGROWER

Luis Pato wines are the result of the association of two traditional families from Bairrada, the Pato family and the Melo Campos family. At the Quinta do Ribeirinho (Ribeirinho Estate) the documents reveal a wine production since the 18th Century. Its activity of wine bottling began in the 1970s.

Affectionately known as the 'King of Bairrada', Luis Pato is the man who has done most to put this region on the modern winemaking map. He is one of Portugal's most controversial winemakers and is a serious player with 65 hectares in production. From 2006 his vineyards are devoted entirely to Portuguese varieties; all international varieties having uprooted.

Pato's passion is the Baga grape, and he says his chalky clay soils are perfect for it. Other varieties like Touriga Nacional are grown on sandy soils, in a meticulously planned estate. Luis now shares winemaking duties with his daughter, Filipa.

Quinta do Moinho 2000

CSPC# 789264

750mlx6

13.0% alc./vol.

Grape Variety

100% Baga

Winemaker

Luis & Filipa Pato

Vineyards

'Pan' and 'Barrosa' are two different soil-based single vineyard expressions of Baga-the former relatively feminine, the latter more Bordeaux-masculine. Both age wonderfully ... 'Pan' is from youthful 20 y.o. chalky, clay soils.

Fermentation/ Maturation

Wine exclusively produced from Baga grapes with green harvest at the beginning of August.

Fermented for 2 weeks in stainless steel vats under temperature control. Matured for 12 months in new and used Allier oak casks.

Tasting Notes

Dark purple in colour, with a royal purple fringe. Red currents, light game, pepper and spice, minerally and earthy. In the mouth the wine is very refined, but powerful. Great balance and structure, you can see the potential for this to age, but it's great drinking now. On the palate it's full of mulberry, mocha coffee, with a slight raisin character. The lighter wine of the two but different and exotic.

Serve with

To be dished up with gamey meats, and when exceeds 10 years of age, with a good sheep cured cheese.

Cellaring

A Burgundian style wine with good acidity. Drink 2005-2029

Scores/Awards

16.5 points - Julia Harding, JancisRobinson.com - August 7, 2015

92 points - Mark Squires, Wine Advocate #227 - October 28, 2016

88 points - Stephen Tanzer, Vinous - May/June 2002 (score only)

Reviews

"Greyish garnet with soft rim. Complex developed aromas of undergrowth and leather and a bit bloody too but there is still some of Baga's sweet red fruit aroma showing and almost something in the floral spectrum – maybe tobacco. More bloody with air. On the palate, real energy and freshness – and small-berried red fruits - the tannins relatively compact but smoothed. Long and surprisingly rich, the richness balanced by the acidity. Knowing Luis Pato's Baga wines, this will probably age a lot longer. On the second day, this wine actually seemed younger than when I first tasted it."

- JH, JancisRobinson.com



Reviews *“The 2000 Tinto Quinta do Moinho is one of the oldies this issue (in the Beiras regional appellation). This is mostly fresh, but it lacks the definition and focus of the recently seen (and completely brilliant) 2001. It compensates, though, with very fine concentration, giving this a very lush and rich feel for an older Baga. It fills the mouth. The 2000 and 2001 vintages often produce these differences--they both reflect their vintage styles. Still relatively youthful, this can hang on for at least another decade, maybe much more, but let's take this in stages.*

For this issue, Luis Pato provides a slew of older wines showing how well Baga ages--but we are also capping that off with the new vintages and even some barrel samples. I even got a look at the upcoming 2015s, which promises to be a very fine vintage, including a Pe Franco on chalky soil. The regular (sandy soil) and new bottling look to have tons of potential but stay tuned. I'm not publishing reviews on those yet as they are just a bit too far away and I'd like to see them again with more bottle time. As far as other old vines go, we also have some of Pato's Vinha Barrosa from centenary vines. This is a Baga, although there may be some scattered white grapes in the field blend (around 1%, Pato said). It's a rather good value point in the lineup--high quality, a lot cheaper than Pe Franco.”

- MS, Wine Advocate
