

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.

Vinho Espumante Maria Gomes – Sparkling White NV

CSPC# 725370

750mlx12

12.6% alc./vol.

Grape Variety	100% <i>Maria Gomes</i>
Winemaker	Luis Pato
Vineyards	Grown in vineyards planted in sandy soil.
Harvest	Maria Gomes grape variety is one of the main white grape varieties from Bairrada. Every year, between the middle and the end of August, we pick up for sparkling wine to get high levels of acidity; the second picking is made two weeks later, to the production of the white wine.
Vinification/ Maturation	Fermented in separate stainless steel vats under control temperature for 15 days. The second fermentation was completed in the bottle to keep the flavour of flowers and fruits from the main grape. Aged 5 months in the bottle. Before release.
Tasting Notes	This Portuguese sparkler is made from the obscure Maria Gomes grape by one of the country's top wine-makers, Luis Pato. The result is a fresh with lovely, sweet-floral fruits on the nose, and a touch of toasty and biscuit character. Dry on the palate, but not too Brut, it is packed with apple, fresh lemon, white plum, and white flowers.
Serve with	It is a summer wine but also of conviviality. Serve with White meat, Fish & vegetables.
Bottled	Serve at 10°C 2023



Vinho Espumante Casta Baga – Sparkling Rosé NV

CSPC# 725371

750mlx12

12.0% alc./vol.

Grape Variety	100% Baga
Winemaker	Luis Pato
Vineyards	Grown in vineyards planted in chalky-clay soils with Baga grapes.
Vinification/ Maturation	Vinified through a slight pressure, in a vacuum press to obtain a juice yield that doesn't exceed 60%. It is followed by a fermentation in stainless steel vats. As the second fermentation occurs inside the bottle, the wine matures six to nine months on the lees before the necessary procedures to finish it, to reach the client in its best conditions.
Tasting Notes	Luis Pato is an expert in sparkling wines. This rosé, made with the Baga grape variety, is surprising. It has an intense aroma, beautiful salmon color and is delicious in the mouth, very dry and refreshing, with a sophisticated touch of fermentation notes. A different choice and full of charm.
Serve with	What a fun wine! Perfect for pizza parties or BBQs, this food friendly sparker shows a beautiful light ruby color in the glass. With an abundance of fine bubbles, it shows notes of red plums, black cherries, and pomegranate with subtler elements of orange peel, coffee and dried herbs. Robust and flavorful, yet refreshing and easy to like, this is a value sparkler perfect for celebrating on a weeknight!



Maria Gomes 2023

CSPC# 783757

750mlx12

12.5% alc./vol.

Grape Variety	100% Maria Gomes
Winemaker	Luis Pato
Harvest	Maria Gomes is one of the main Bairrada white grapes. Two pickings are made on Maria Gomes vineyards. The 1 st picking for the sparkling is made in the middle to the end of August to get a good acidity; the 2 nd picking is made 2 weeks later to improve the ripeness of the remaining grapes for this white wine.
Vinification	Fermented in stainless steel vats and bottled young.
Tasting Notes	The white grape variety Fernao Pires is called in the Beiras Maria Gomes. A fresh, fruity, and incredibly delicious white wine from sandy soils of the Maria Gomes grape comes. Crisp and fresh with an enticing array of clean fresh yellow plums and a slatey texture. Juicy, slightly mineral, and finely textured. Aromas of peaches and melon dominate. Long finish.
Serve with	Appetizers, salads, fish, shellfish, white meats, Italian and Asian cuisine including sushi and food with citrus sauces. Serve at 12°C
Cellaring	Drink 2024-2028



Vinhas Velhas White 2022

CSPC# 725367

750mlx12

12.5% alc./vol.

Grape Variety

50% Bical, 25% Cerceal, 25% Sercialinho

Winemaker

Luis Pato

Vineyards

Chalky clay (Bical) + Sandy (Cercial and Sercialinho). The average vine age is 40 years. Of the 60 hectares of vineyards that the Pato family owns, Luis Pato Vinhas Velhas Branco is made with a mixture of three native varieties. These strains have an average age of 15 years old. The Bical variety grows in clay-calcareous soil and the Cerceal and the Sercialinho grown in sandy soils. The team uses environmentally friendly agriculture, and the harvest is carried out manually when the grapes reach optimum ripeness.

Vinification/ Maturation

This wine is a lot of Bical (50%) on chalky-clay soil, Cerceal (25%) and Sercialinho (25%) on sandy soil. In the winery, the Luis Pato Vinhas Velhas Branco grapes are destemmed and gently pressed. The must then ferments in stainless steel tanks for 4 months. Finally, it ages on lees and undergoes malolactic fermentation in new 650-litre Allier French oak barrels for 6 months.

Tasting Notes

The Luis Pato Vinhas Velhas White wine bears the signature of the winemaker Luis Pato, one of the biggest names in viticulture in Portugal. Made with a cut of Bical, Cerceal and Sercialinho grapes, from old vines located in the Bairrada wine region. A blend of Bical, Cerceal and Sercialinho from old vines, aromas of citrus lemons and grapefruit, dry and medium bodied with mineral undertones and mouth watering acidity on the long finish. This is a label that can be enjoyed now, but it has great storage potential and can age in the bottle for up to a decade.

Serve with

Great with chicken, fish, and shellfish. Also, great with Asian foods, cured and smoked meats, and light starters, grilled vegetables, and salads.

Cellaring

Drink 2023-2029

Reviews

"What is important is how it tastes. It's honeyed, and feels rich, but it also has great balancing freshness, and isn't heavy at all, it hasn't been oak aged, it weighs in at only 12.5%. The cooling Atlantic helps cool the temperatures in this region, allowing the freshness and drinkability to come forward. This wine is lovely now, but is built to last, we have tried examples more than 15 years old. A great match to our cod supper."

- Butler's Wine Cellar

"Soft Portuguese white with aromas of honey suckle and beeswax. On the palate, honeyed stone fruit and minerality with a green streak running throughout."

- Wadebridge Wines



Baga/Touriga Nacional 2022

CSPC# 725369

750mlx12

12.5% alc./vol.

Grape Variety	<i>60% Baga, 40% Touriga Nacional</i>
Winemaker	Luis Pato
Vineyards	Baga grapes and Touriga Nacional, from vineyards planted in sandy and chalky clay soils.
Harvest	August 2022
Fermentation/ Vinification	Produced from Baga (60%) and Touriga Nacional (40%) grape varieties, this wine is vinified to enhance the primary flavours and the chocolate character of Baga, subject to a first harvest in the end of August. Fermented during 3 days in stainless steel vats under temperature control
Tasting Notes	Luis Pato Baga Touriga Nacional has aromas that reminds of violets, berries' notes, especially raspberries, and also smoked notes. It is an elegant and fruity red wine with chocolate hints dominating its character. It presents extraordinary mineral notes and great acidity.
Serve with	To be dished up with red meat, hunt meals, light cheese, and codfish. Serve at 14-16°C. Aging capacity at least 10 years.
Cellaring	Drink between 2024-2032



Vinha Pan 2018

CSPC# 789263

750mlx6

13.0% alc./vol.

Grape Variety

100% Baga

Winemaker Luis Pato

Vineyards Luis Pato Vinha Pan comes from old vines planted in clay and limestone soils, in the town of Panasqueira (Castelo Branco). This is a south-facing slope cultivated using environmentally friendly agriculture with the harvest carried out manually at the optimal point of ripeness.

**Fermentation/
Maturation** When the Luis Pato Vinha Pan grapes are harvested, they undergo hyperoxygenation as an alternative to adding sulphates. The wine then ferments at a controlled temperature and finally ages in 500-litre oak barrels. Before it is bottled, the wine is clarified and filtered.

Tasting Notes Youthful and fresh, with firm tannins and refreshing acidity, blackcurrants and some tobacco, leather, minerals, and long-quenching and fresh finish, Fixed and harsh tannins today, but with great balance and a long, delicious aftertaste.

Serve with To be dished up with duck, wild boar, and red meats.

It should be served at a temperature of 16°C to 18°C.

Cellaring A Burgundian style wine with good acidity. Made with this winery's star variety, Luis Pato Vinha Pan is a 100% Baga red wine that is pleasant, fruity, and juicy, and will develop well in the bottle for over 15 years.

Drink 2021-2037

Scores/Awards **92 points** - Mark Squires, eRobertParker.com - July 2022

Reviews *"The 2018 Vinha Pan is a Baga aged for 24 months in 50% new French oak. It comes in at 13% alcohol. This shows the class of this bottling compared to the more value-oriented Vinhas Velhas. More complex, deeper and more mouth coating. It grips the palate beautifully, filled with fruit and supported by fine structure. It's where, in a difficult year, Pato pulled out the stops to make a fine upper-level Baga. He did this by reducing the bunches by 30% (some of those went into the Espumante Vinha Pan). It should age well, and it is filled with potential, especially promising just now. It is also relatively approachable now, not that I'd recommend that. It will become much more interesting in a few years."*
- MS, eRobertParker.com



Vinha Barrosa 2013

CSPC# 725373

750mlx6

14.0% alc./vol.

SOLD OUT

Grape Variety	100% Baga
Winemaker	Luis Pato
Tasting Notes	Round tannins in the mouth. Notes of tobacco, wood, red fruit and a bit of mild vegetable. Fills the mouth and has long end. Good structure and to look rather heavy.
Serve with	To be dished up with red meats roasted in the oven as well as gamey meat, without forgetting dishes with duck.
Cellaring	A Burgundian style wine with good acidity. It will age for 15 or 20 years.
Scores/Awards	18 points - Revista de Vinhos. 89+ points - Mark Squires, eRobertParker.com #227 - October 28, 2016 17+ points - Julia Harding, JancisRobinson.com - May 24, 2017 17.5+ points - Julia Harding, JancisRobinson.com - May 14, 2016
Reviews	<p><i>"The 2013 Vinha Barrosa Vinha Velha (with the Bairrada DOC designation) has strong eucalyptus notes, but not much in body. That seems to be a theme here with the 2013s (and perhaps in other places as well). This was a tricky vintage. It lacks the definition of the best years, too, but there is still fine structure and it is a step up on the Vinha Pan. Still unevolved, it has power to spare. It may yet flesh out a bit and put on some weight.</i></p> <p><i>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".</i></p> <p><i>- MS, eRobertParker.com</i></p> <p><i>"Barrosa vineyard is now a Luis Pato monopole (last plot bought 2007). He rebuilt the original vineyard that had been split by inheritance. 100-year-old vines. No first picking (ie green harvest where the fruit is used for fizz base wine) necessary in these older, lower-yielding and more evenly ripening vines. Mid cherry red. Much more minty than the Vinha Pan just tasted (pine and eucalyptus), a touch herbal. Great perfume and finesse. Intense and still elegant, scented, filled with red fruit but also has the complexity of the mintiness and the spice. Really intense and almost biting in its freshness. (JH)"</i></p> <p><i>- JH, JancisRobinson.com</i></p> <p><i>"So, perfumed on the nose: fragrant cherry aroma with a touch of eucalyptus and balsam. Juicy, sweet-fruited and compact, fine chalky texture but very perfumed on the palate too. Seductive and mouth-watering. So much more to come. (JH)"</i></p> <p><i>- JH, JancisRobinson.com</i></p>



Quinta do Moinho 2000

CSPC# 789264

750mlx6

13.0% alc./vol.

SOLD OUT

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	<i>"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."</i> - JH, JancisRobinson.com



"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

Vinha Pan 2005

CSPC# 789263

750mlx6

13.0% alc./vol.

SOLD OUT

Grape Variety

100% Baga

Winemaker Luis 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. sand-planted vines, and has concentration to match 'Barrosa', with extra zip.

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.

Serve with

To be dished up with duck and red meats.

Cellaring

A Burgundian style wine with good acidity. It will age for 15 or 20 years.

Scores/Awards

94 points - Jamie Goode, wineanorak.com - March 2008

17.5 points - Julia Harding, JancisRobinson.com - April 2012

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

86+ points - Mark Squires, Wine Advocate #177 - July 28, 2008

Reviews

"Brooding, focused nose is dark, spicy and elegant with black cherry and black fruits. Incredibly tight and complex. The palate is open and expressive with elegant dark fruits, good acidity and a lovely fine yet grippy tannic structure. Wonderful stuff for long ageing."

- JG, Wineanorak.com

"31-year-old vineyard. Luis Pato's best vintage up to 2009. Pure Baga. This was the first year he did not do a green harvest because he started to use the less ripe fruit for the sparkling Informal – a green harvest with a purpose. Deep crimson. Complex nose of red fruit and cedary and just a hint of eucalyptus. On the palate, dry and fresh but with a rounded sweetness of red fruit even though the tannins counteract the sweetness. Juicy and so fresh. Concentrated and silky even though the tannins are still so present. (JH) 13%"

- JH, JancisRobinson.com

"The 2005 VINHA PAN is nicely textured, but rather tart at the moment, with mouthwatering acidity and a sour cherry finish that was hard to warm up to. The supporting tannins are somewhat drying at the moment but should integrate nicely into the wine with time. The texture is appealing, and there is solid fruit underneath, but this will need some patience for it to come into some semblance of balance. Nine hours of decanting did not make it charming, but it did make it drinkable. Drink 2010-2020. Luis Pato, the lucky duck of Beiras ("Pato" means duck in Portuguese and there are often ducks displayed around Pato and on his wine labels), is widely considered a dominant force in his region, a winemaker who, when the weather cooperates in his difficult region, can tame the difficult Baga grape with which he works. His wines these days often have a refined elegance rather than rustic astringency, but they retain that very bright Baga acidity"

- MS, Wine Advocate

The 2005 Vinha Pan is a Baga, from the Beiras regional appellation, that is part of our oldies theme this issue. This is not as old as some and has been previously seen, but it is doing well, exceeding expectations and it is good to check in. This was a wine I wanted to see again--it had potential, but it there was a lot of estimating involved in that. Fresh and perky now, with lively acidity that has been far better integrated into the whole, this shows very tasty fruit, tension on the finish and lingering flavors. It is lighter styled, not the most concentrated Vinha Pan, but it has blossomed and evolved beautifully, changing from a tart and charmless red into something enlivening, enticing and open.



Reviews *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

Vinhas Velhas Red 2009

CSPC# 770059 (formerly 725368)

750mlx12

13.0% alc./vol.

SOLD OUT

Grape Variety

100% Baga

Winemaker

Luis Pato

Vineyards

Grown in chalky-clay soils on vines with an average age of forty years.

Harvest

In the end of August, it was made a first harvest, to produce sparkling Wine from the same grapes, of about 60%, to increase the concentration and anticipate the maturation of the grapes left in the vine to harvest in the end of September to produce this Vinhas Velhas.

Vinification/

Maturation

Vinified in stainless steel vats for ten days, it was matured in used casks (650 litres of capacity) for fifteen months.

Tasting Notes

Intense, very smoky on the nose. Very well done with a beginning, middle and end. Delicate with good fruit and acidity. Good balance and apparent potential for aging. Longo. More complex than most.

Serve with

To be dished up with gamey meats as well as others red meat dishes.

Cellaring

This delicious wine is dense and structured with good acidity: should age well. It will last more than fifteen years.

Scores/Awards

90 points - Mark Squires, Wine Advocate #216 (Part 2) - January 2015

17 points - Julia Harding, JancisRobinson.com - March 18, 2013

Reviews

"The 2009 Vinhas Velhas is all Baga, designated with the Beiras appellation and aged for 12 months in used French oak. It comes in at 13% alcohol. Aromatically earthy, this combines notable tannins with a crisp, tight finish. The mid-palate is on the elegant side. The finish is gripping, although the wine does not have a lot of mid-palate concentration. Pato was talking to me recently about a comparative tasting with some Barolos. This surely makes that point very well. It has a strong, old-style, Piedmont feel to it in its purity, acidity and tight, tannic edge. It is a food wine and nothing but. However, of Pato's submissions, this is, in fact, relatively dense and accessible. While it has all of those intense structural components, it is far more approachable than some of Pato's young and powerful 2011s also submitted this issue. It may lack their verve, focus and intensity. Still, you can actually think about diving into this now, noting that it needs food and air. If you're looking for sweet, easy, fat and rich, look elsewhere. It is a lot of wine for the price if you value structure and complexity. There were just 8,700 bottles produced. Mostly on display here are Pato's 2011 reds, plus a couple of older wines and a dessert wine. The October issue featured some whites and sparklers. The 2011 vintage in most of Portugal was exceptional, producing concentrated and well-structured wines. At Luis Pato's winery, it produced no-holds-barred powerhouses. Luis Pato simply rocked this Tinto vintage, but be patient. These will not be easy wines. His 2011s lean to structure at the moment – tannin, acidity, pure power, Baga in full flight. They also have fine concentration, though. Pato said to me: "They are growing in character every 6 months...and it is a vintage with a long distance showing...a typical vintage to age." It is certainly a good vintage in which to illustrate Pato's point that there are some resemblances to Barolo here. I would add, that's more along the lines of old-style Barolo despite some of the oak treatment here. The wines have nuances at times of forest floor and amber. Often earthy and always intense, these are wines that require you to have a cellar, particularly at the upper levels. Don't expect modern, soft and sweet, especially in 2011. (The 2010s are rather more accessible.) Finally, note that appellations occasionally shift here. It can confuse the automated computer system at times. We will try to keep that straight. I've noted it in the notes as well. All of Pato's top wines, he says, were Bairrada DOC in 2011."
- MS, Wine Advocate

"Baga. 45-year-old vines. 12 months in new and used French oak. Bright, deep cherry red. Lively red cherries on the nose too. Red fruit and a little herbal on the palate. Pure and concentrated without excess weight. Fine, taut and juicy, already surprisingly approachable."

- JH, JancisRobinson.com

