

WINE DESCRIPTION

GOULD CAMPBELL 1977 VINTAGE PORT



ESTABLISHED 1797

GOULD CAMPBELL PORT

In 1797 Garrett Gould prompted by the political strife wracking his native Ireland sailed for the hospitable shores of Portugal where he established the firm of Messrs. Gould Brothers & Co, operating from Lisbon and Oporto. The firm soon became very successful and brought into partnership the prestigious Merchants and Bankers, Messrs. James Campbell & Co., subsequently adopting the name by which it is still known.

In 1970 the Symington family who had themselves been Port shippers since 1882 acquired the firm. It is therefore one of the few traditional Port firms to remain a private family business thus retaining its individuality and distinctiveness.

Tasting Notes

Ruby/garnet colour, with complex aromas of wild fruits and nuances of pepper and chocolate. Full bodied, with good round tannins and the long and lingering finish.

The Viticultural Year

After a wet and cold spring and indifferent summer, the weather from August onwards could not have been more perfect. A small harvest of very healthy grapes was gathered under ideal conditions a week earlier than usual. An excellent vintage producing full, extremely rich, powerful and concentrated wines. One of the post-war period's best.

Reviews & Awards

"Gould Campbell 1977 has a decent claim to being the best-value vintage port ever."

Jancis Robinson, Financial Times, October 2004

"Yes, of course I should have decanted it earlier, but even freshly opened, it was tea-scented, resonant and succulent. We finished half that night, the rest was drunk over the following three days. It got better...and better. The air seemed to bring it added freshness and revitalise its forces; it finished with the fruited roar of a lost, hot summer. Magnificent!"

Andrew Jefford, Wine International, August 2003

96 out of 100 Points

"I found some of the lesser-known wines more impressive, including GOULD CAMPBELL. (...) In terms of sheer quality for money, it's crazy not to buy some '77 Smith Woodhouse or GOULD CAMPBELL."

James Suckling, Wine Spectator, December 1997

4 out of 5 Stars

"GOULD CAMPBELL ...as near perfection as the most fastidious Port drinker will ever find."

Richard Mayson, Decanter Magazine, February 1994

Peter Symington, responsible with his son Charles for the vineyards and wine making, has been made 'Fortified Wine Maker of the Year' an extraordinary 6 times by the 'Wine Challenge'. Nobody else has won this important award more than once. In 2003, his son Charles won the same award.

Vintage Overview

A classic Vintage, concentrated, long-lasting and complex. Declared by all the major Port houses.

Contemporary Family Comments

"A very hot two weeks (35-36 c daily) with little or no wind has had a dramatic effect on the wines: at Bomfim sugar testing on 1st September gave 10.5 - by 8th it had risen to 11.5 and is now over 12. If the hot weather holds, the prospects for a good quality Vintage are much improved."

Michael Symington
October 1977

Wine Specification

Alcohol by Volume: 20% v/v (20°C)

Total Acidity: 4.28 g/l tartaric acid

Baumé: 2.6

