

WINE DESCRIPTION

WARRE'S 1997 VINTAGE PORT

WARRE'S

FOUNDED 1670 IN OPORTO

PORT



Warre's

Warre's, founded in 1670, was the first British Port company established in Portugal and therefore the pioneer of a great tradition; its history is synonymous with that of Port itself. Warre's Ports are distinguished for their structure, power and softly perfumed nose. They have a particularly fresh and elegant style. Warre's premium wines are sourced from Quinta da Cavadinha and Quinta do Retiro Antigo, two of the finest estates of the Douro valley. Warre's Vintage Ports are renowned the world over for their excellence and are consistently placed amongst the best in comparative tastings.

Tasting Notes

Wonderful purple blue colour. A classic Warre nose full of class and complexity, packed with concentrated layers of ripe red fruits and underlying gum cistus aromas. On the palate rich floral flavours, enormous mid-palate structure, and impressive length.

Undoubtedly a wine for long ageing and a classic amongst Vintages.

The Viticultural Year

The winter of 1997 got off to an unusually cold start, with snowfalls covering our Quinta da Cavadinha and Rio Torto Quintas in early January. In contrast February and March were beautifully warm, with maximum temperatures reaching 30°C. This provoked bud burst two weeks earlier than usual and rapid vine development, which raised the spectre of Spring frosts. Fortunately this did not occur, and even though cold and wet weather returned in April and May, doing some damage in the "Altos" (the higher areas), flowering and fruit set in the river side Quintas took place under near ideal conditions.

The weather for the remainder of Spring was cool allowing the vines an even and balanced development. Hot and dry conditions returned in mid-August and continued throughout September, interrupted only by a couple of days of refreshing rain on the 24th and 27th of August.

Reviews & Awards

17.5 Points out of 20

"Lovely rich nose. An abundance of very classy fruit here. Fullish. Sweet. Very good acidity. This is typical Warre and a fine example. Very, very long. Very complex."

Clive Coates, The Vine, September 1999

94 Points out of 100

"Aromas of minerals, berries and wet earth jump out of the glass. Full-bodied and very chewy, with lots of fruit and a long finish. A tough young wine. Warre is flexing its muscles here."

James Suckling, Wine Spectator, February 29th 2000

94 Points out of 100

"A firm, structured wine with spices and powerful, dry fruits. Black fruits dominate along with the tannins, giving the impression of a wine with still leashed-up power."

Roger Voss, Wine Enthusiast, February 2001

Five Stars (Outstanding)

"Richly scented; elegant, excellent finish."

Michael Broadbent, Vintage Wine, Published 2002

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 twice. In 2003, his son Charles won the same award.

Vintage Overview

One of the great Vintages of the decade, with full-bodied and harmonious wines. General declaration.

Contemporary Family Comments

"Picking at Cavadinha ended on the 8th October. Yields were well down on 1996. Production at the Quinta amounted to 139 pipes compared to 223 pipes the previous year, a drop of 38%. However, the quality was excellent."

Charles Symington
October 1997

Wine Specifications

Alcohol: 20% vol (20°C)

Total acidity: 4.36 g/l tartaric acid

Baumé: 3.4

