

Assobio red scores 90 points in *Wine Spectator*



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The American Magazine *Wine Spectator* has released the March edition 'Buying Guide', featuring Assobio 2014 red as a best value wine with 90 points. Gillian Sciaretta, describes it as fresh, highlighting the fruit, spiciness and supple tannins of this Douro red from Quinta dos Murças.

[Assobio red 2014](#) is a blend of the most traditional Douro grape varieties - Touriga Nacional, Tinta Roriz and Touriga Franca – thus respecting the viticultural tradition of the oldest demarcated wine region of the world, The wine's balanced, fresh, versatile and gastronomic character reflects, the Douro Valley's unique conditions, different terroirs, extreme climate and sustainable agricultural methods.

At the edge of Quinta dos Murças' boundaries, there is a valley formed by steep slopes. Here, the vineyards are primarily north-facing at high altitudes, and are more protected from the sun. When the wind blows, there is a whistling sound. It is this particular characteristic that gives the wine its name: Assobio means "whistle" in Portuguese. It is from plots like these that Assobio [white](#), [rose](#) and [red](#) are produced.

The Assobio range is part of the Quinta dos Murças portfolio, which also includes the [Minas](#), [Reserva](#), [Margem](#), [VV47](#), [Porto Tawny 10 anos](#) and [Porto Vintage](#) wines, as well as the estate's extra-virgin olive oil.

About Quinta dos Murças and the new range:

The origin of the wines and their characteristics: <https://www.esporao.com/en/about/quinta-dos-murcas/>

About Esporão's Quinta dos Murças: Dating back to 1714, Quinta dos Murças is located in northern Portugal, in the Cima-Corgo sub-region of the Douro. The Douro, established in 1756, is the oldest DOC in the world. The region is characterized by its dry, hot climate and steep schist slopes carved out by the Douro River and its tributaries. The Quinta dos Murças estate is situated on the right bank of the Douro River, between the towns of Régua and Pinhão, nearly two hours drive east of Porto. Stretching over half a mile along the riverfront, mainly with southern exposure, Quinta dos Murças encompasses a total of 383 acres, of which 118 acres are vineyards with indigenous grape varieties. In 1947, the estate became a pioneer with the first vertical vineyard planted in the Douro region. Quinta dos Murças is a unique estate characterized by its 8 diverse terroirs, which are distinguished by different altitudes, exposures, variations of schist soils and vertical vineyards. In addition to the vineyards, the olive, orange and almond trees and the surrounding forest support biodiversity and promote the balance of the local ecosystem. The region's extreme climate and terrain, the agricultural practices respecting nature and the different winemaking processes emphasize the true character of the fruit, resulting in concentrated, elegant and fresh terroir-driven wines. Quinta dos Murças produces wines, such as Assobio DOC Douro and the Quinta dos Murças range - Quinta dos Murças Minas, Quinta dos Murças Margem, Quinta dos Murças VV47, Quinta dos Murças Reserva, Quinta dos Murças Porto Tawny 10 anos, Quinta dos Murças Porto Vintage 2011 and Quinta dos Murças extra-virgin olive oil.

About Esporão: Founded in 1973 by José Roquette and Joaquim Bandeira, Esporão's is one of the most important wine companies in Portugal. It is a key factor in making the Alentejo an important name in both national and international markets, Esporão is also an ambassador of Portuguese culture, operating in a sustainable way, while building close ties with customers and consumers the world over. Esporão is based in the Alentejo region, where it produces iconic wines, such as Esporão Reserva and Monte Velho, as well as extra-virgin olive oils. Herdade do Esporão also boasts an excellent wine tourism project on the same site as the wineries. The company's project now also extends to Quinta dos Murças, an estate in the Douro region that produces terroir wines with the Esporão hallmark of quality.

Esporão sells its products in a range of shops and restaurants in over 50 countries in the world. The company's holistic approach in adapting a wide range of innovative sustainable practices led to the attribution of the coveted and prestigious "Sustainability of the Year Award" at the "The Drinks Business Green Awards 2013". In 2014, Esporão won an award at the "European Business Awards for the Environment" in the "Products and Services" category.

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