

THE SOURCE ARRIBAS WINE COMPANY TRÁS-OS-MONTES



2023 SAROTO BRANCO

PRODUCER OVERVIEW

After years of research, friends and former Dirk Niepoort disciples and enologists, Riccardo Alves and Frederico Machado, began their own courageous project in 2018. In the desolate high altitude (600-700m) hills overlooking the Douro River (Duero in Spanish) of Portugal's Trás-os-Montes, the territory is rugged, rocky, and steep; a terrain of ancient acidic Pangean-era rocks (mostly granite, schist and gneiss), variations of sand and clay, and far more than fifty indigenous varieties from ancient vines grown in an extreme continental climate with hot summer days and cold nights. Each of their red and white wines blend dozens of varieties and express their terroir with clarity. All the vineyard work is organic and done by hand with target alcohols between 10.5-12.5%. The wines are spontaneously fermented, and the reds usually have 100% whole bunches and are aged in old French oak barrels, concrete and steel. None of the wines are fined or filtered.

VINEYARD DETAILS

Saroto Branco is a blend of dozens of white grape varieties from ~50-year-old vines on a south/southeast and flat to extremely steep plots on granite, quartz and clay at 650-700m.

CELLAR NOTES

100% whole clusters foot trodden in traditional lagar (old stone or concrete shallow but wide fermentation vessels) for a 3-day maceration followed by natural fermentation and 7 months of aging in old French oak with no temperature control. No finings or filtration.

