



DA CRUZ & TELES COZS - VM-CASTELÃO



VINTAGE	2021
COUNTRY	Portugal
REGION	Lisboa (Serra de Montejunto)
APELLATION	Obidos
WINE TYPE	Red Wine
VARIETIES	100% Castelão
ORGANIC	Certified Organic since 2020
VINEYARD	“Vinha da Murta” (vm) in Montejunto (north of Lisbon) planted in 2006.
SOIL	Clay-Limestone
VITICULTURE	Minimal intervention farming in an effort to maintain and protect the surrounding biodiversity. 2021 was a classic vintage in Obidos; rainy conditions in Spring and during harvest.
VINIFICATION	Partial whole cluster fermentation with indigenous yeasts in 1000L dornas.
AGING	Pressed and aged in large Burgundy barrels for 15 months. Malolactic completed.
PRODUCTION	2,600 bottles
ABV%	12.5%
BOTTLE UPC	636824791635

COZs

Da Cruz e Teles is a partnership between two of the most brilliant vigneron/ winemakers from Portugal, Tiago Teles (Gilda, RAIZ) and Antonio Marques-da Cruz (Quinta da Serradinha).

The idea of working together started in 2015 when they approached the family of the late Jose Mendonça about working their vineyard in Figueira da Foz, a village north of Lisbon. This place was the main source of the grapes of Quinta dos Cozinheiros, the producer of a wine that became a reference point for the new generation of winemakers in Portugal, and which unfortunately came to an end with the tragic and untimely death of Mendonça. The vineyard, located just 5 miles from the Atlantic, proved ideal for the wines of Teles and Marques-da-Cruz. Its 50-year-old vines of Baga and slightly younger vines of Maria Gomes and Arinto are co-planted on clay-limestone soils and farmed organically. The proximity to the coast keeps the heat at bay and the grapes find great balance between ripeness and minerality.

Spurred by the success of their first vineyard, Tiago and Antonio purchased a 2-hectare vineyard in the Serra de Montejunto, a mountain range also in the region of Lisbon. This 35 year-old vineyard is planted on clay-limestone soils with Vital, a white varietal. Here too the farming is organic. They are not stopping here and are in the process of acquiring another vineyard in Lisbon planted with old vines of Baga.

With the introduction of the PoP labels, Tiago and Antonio are making slightly softer wines, with the reds fermenting whole cluster and shorter macerations. Tiago describes their philosophy perfectly here:

“Our objective with COZs is to make ‘geographic wines’ that express where they’re from and age with dignity. We are not following trends, and don’t want to make French, or Italian wines (however if pressed we’d say our wines are more of an Italian nature...) That is why we don’t do carbonic wines, for instance. Portugal is a beautiful country but it is not perfect. I think that showing who we are is a nice way of doing things.”