



The Daily Drinker

2018 Vinhao, Anselmo Mendes

ref. MEND180 AUT20













Wine Variety: The fruit of the elder bush was used to deepen the colour of port until the late 18th century, at which point this activity was prohibited, the non-grape component being replaced by fruit of the Vinhao vine, called Sousao in the Douro. Vinhao is from northern Portugal and produces the most densely coloured wines of all in this country that produces deeply-hued wines. This is the main red variety for red Vinho Verde.

Wine Region: Vinho Verde lies to the north of the city of Oporto and, bearing the brunt of Atlantic weather fronts, is a green land of small-holders and many vineyards. Traditionally, vines are trained high up on granite trellises and this to some degrees curbs the threat of various moulds that thrive in such warm and wet conditions. The wines of Vinho Verde cannot exceed 11.5% abv by law. Until relatively recently, most wines emanating from this region were gently fizzy reds from the agricultural end of the scale.

Wine Producer: This is a small family-run operation, involving Anselmo and his wife Fernanda, Anselmo's brother and now his son, Tiago and a few employees. They are based between Monção and Melgaço, a stone's throw from the River Minho, which marks the border with Spain, in a little hamlet called Penso. But in fact, Anselmo's name is seriously well-known in Portugal, associated with dozens of other wines from all over the country. His involvement as a consultant in these different projects varies; in some cases, he is blending and endorsing the wines; in others he is fully involved in viticultural consultancy, winemaking and blending too.

Single Bottle **£14.75**
member price: £13.28

Six Bottle Case **£88.50**
member price: £79.65

 Style: Red - medium-bodied	 Grape Variety: Vinhao	 Producer: Anselmo Mendes	 Serving Temperature: 16°C
 Alcohol Content: 12.5%	 Country: Portugal	 Appellation: Vinho Verde	 Drink By: 2022
 Bottle Size: 75cl	 Region: Minho	 Colour: Still Red	 Food: BBQ Beef Casseroles and Stews Game Lamb Pasta Vegetables

Tasting Notes:

Very deeply coloured: an almost opaque ruby purple. There are hints of dark chocolate and flowers to the spiced dark fruit aromas. Black pepper lifts the black raspberry scent. Dry earth plays with dried herbs in the background. This is cool across the tongue: a snappy, very dark-fruited thing. A lively freshness resides within, is lasting, combines with well-managed slightly piquant tannins and pushes forward. Spice becomes quite dominant. A long thing. I think this would chill rather well. A medium red of distinction. Hidden almonds within the structure. Lovely midnight snap.

#3wordtastingnote: spice, dark, snap

To buy this wine, go to www.thedailydrinker.co.uk
or call 01380 827291