

THE ESSENTIAL WINE GUIDE

TOP 10 REGIONS IN PORTUGAL AND SPAIN



WINEBERIA
PORTUGAL - ESPAÑA

The sunny side of wine!

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Cheers!



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WELCOME TO THE SUNNY SIDE OF EUROPE

The Iberian Peninsula has a long and diverse history as the crossroads between Europe and Africa. Many empires have ruled the region, from the Phoenicians to the Greeks, Romans and Visigoths, leading to the Moorish conquest. Catholic monarchs ruled here, followed by the Fascist regimes of the twentieth century, finally evolving into democracy: republican in Portugal, and a monarchy in Spain.



The wine legacy of the Iberian Peninsula reflects the region's deep and diverse cultural and geographical history. Ancient and modern sensibilities exist side by side in this glorious part of the world, offering the opportunity to taste small production wines in regions that are, surprisingly, rarely visited.

Each sub region contributes its own part to the Iberian story, but there are always common threads that tie everything together.

Whether you are a wine connoisseur or just beginning your wine adventures, you'll find plenty of innovative companies that cater to wine appreciation.

On the Iberian wine route, you'll find many tasting rooms at spectacular wineries, restaurants, wine bars, and even wine spas offering grape-based beauty treatments.



“Getting to know Portugal and Spain through its wines is the perfect way to connect with the rich culture of the region.”

TOP 10 WINE REGIONS



- PORTUGAL -

1. Vinho Verde | 2. Douro | 3. Bairrada | 4. Lisboa | 5. Alentejo

- SPAIN -

6. Rías Baixas | 7. Ribera del Duero | 8. Rioja | 9. Priorat | 10. Jerez



1. VINHO VERDE

THE REGION

Vinho Verde is produced in Portugal's largest wine region, located in the northwest of the country and bordered at north by the river Minho and at west by the Atlantic Ocean. Intense precipitation and mild temperatures throughout the year contribute to the region's "green atmosphere" that inspired the wine name: Vinho Verde direct translation is Green Wine!

From this unique region comes a unique white wine extremely fresh, young, light, and aromatic that suits all kinds of occasions as it matches perfectly seafood, fish, salads, and even sushi.

In recent years, the quality of Vinho Verde has improved tremendously due to the continuous training and renewed enthusiasm amongst producers. The traditional method of growing vineyards on top of trees and pergolas has been replaced in many parts by modern and wired rows that allow grapes to become healthier through increased sunlight and breeze exposure.

Nine sub-regions compose Vinho Verde DOC, all named after towns and rivers: Monção and Melgaco, Cávado, Lima, Ave, Basto, Sousa, Baião, Amarante and Paiva.

Monção and Melgaço are located in the northern part of the Vinho Verde region, a place with lower rainfall and higher temperature when compared with the rest of the territory. In this microclimate, Alvarinho is the most popular grape variety, producing a full-bodied dry wine with a complex and fresh aroma reminiscent of citrus fruits and peaches.

Travelling south, you will find the sub-regions **Cávado, Lima and Ave** that produce a very fresh and aromatic wine, often with a scent of citrus. Main grape varieties used here are Loureiro, Arinto, Trajadura.

Basto, Sousa and Baião sub-regions also produce dry light wines with rich flavours and mineral presence in tasting.

Finally, **Amarante and Paiva** are the sub-regions known for their fresh, young and highly aromatic red wines.



Quinta das Arcas

WINE ESTATES



1. QUINTA DAS ARCAS

Tours / Trails / Shop

4440-392 Sobrado, Valongo | GPS: 41° 12' 2.39" N, 8° 27' 17.38" W

www.quintadasarcas.com

Quinta das Arcas is a wine state with around 140 hectares of vineyard based on Vinho Verde's typical grape varieties: Alvarinho, Trajadura, Arinto, Loureiro, Vinhão and Espadeiro. Wine production combines traditional and modern techniques, both focused in protecting the habitat and the species that live in the region.

Beside the typical wine and tasting tour, visitors can also enjoy the artisanal cheese made from the milk produced in the farm.

2. QUINTA DA AVELEDA

Tours / Shop / Meals

Rua da Aveleda, 2, 4560-570 Penafiel | GPS: 41° 16' 10.50" N, 8° 16' 23.96" W

www.aveledaportugal.pt

Located at the heart of Vinho Verde region, Quinta da Aveleda is a 205 hectare estate composed by vineyards and beautiful gardens where you can spot ancient and rare species of trees that give to the place a mystical atmosphere.

The winery tour will allow you to learn all the stages of the wine production, followed by a wine and artisanal cheese tasting produced in the farm.

In 2011, Aveleda was awarded with the international “Best of Wine Tourism Award”, in the “Architecture, Parks and Gardens” category.



3. QUINTA DA LIXA

Hotel / Restaurant / SPA / Tours / Shop

Monte Vila Cova da Lixa, 4615-658 Lixa | GPS: 41° 19' 38" N / 8° 9' 5" W

www.quintadalixa.pt

Quinta da Lixa's Wine Tourism is integrated on the Vinho Verde Route, and is also one of the founders of this route. This wine estate allows visitors to learn more about the winemaking and bottling process with a visit to the winery, or discover the grape varieties with the vineyard trail. Last but not least, you will have the opportunity to improve the understanding of the different types of Quinta da Lixa wines in a tasting session conducted by the resident winemaker.

Quinta da Lixa has also hotel Monverde that helps to boost the experience of wine appreciation, the culture and the surroundings of the region.

4. CASA DE SEZIM

Hotel / Restaurant / Tours / Shop

R. de Sezim, 4810-909 Guimarães | GPS: 41° 24' 53.71" N, 8° 19' 42.81" W

www.sezim.pt

Casa de Sezim offers visitors vineyard and winery tours to learn all the secrets of their famous Vinho Verde that is being produced since the middle ages. The property is very appreciated for the enormous rooms containing an exquisite collection of 19th Century French panoramic papers that blend perfectly with the monumentality of the manor façade.

Opened all the year round, Casa de Sezim also offers a choice of eight spacious and comfortable bedrooms, a swimming pool, tennis court as well as walking trails through the surrounding hills.

5. PALÁCIO DA BREJOEIRA

Tours / Shop / Wine Tasting

EN 101 – Pinheiros, 4950-660 Monção | GPS: 42° 2' 30.98" N, 8° 29' 34.13" W

www.palaciodabrejeira.pt

The Brejeira Palace is part of an eighteen hectare wine estate that throughout the years has been producing the finest wines, mostly from the typical Alvarinho grape variety.

The palace is a beautiful neo-classical building from the 19th century that opened to the public in 2010, and since then, thousands of visitors have been discovering its historical secrets.

Beside the wine tours, we recommend visitors to live the most of this historical experience by taking some time to visit the chapel, the garden and surrounding woods

6. SOLAR DE SERRADE

Hotel / Tours / Meals / Shop

Mazedo, 4950-280 Monção | GPS: 42° 3' 28.00" N, 8° 28' 44.00" W

www.solardeserrade.pt

In the Alto Minho region stands Solar de Serrade, a beautiful 17th century manor house that offers all the comfort required by the most demanding visitors. Guests will be delighted to stay at the property hotel and enjoy the sauna after a full day of activities: vineyard and winery tours, participate in typical farm chores, visit the chapel, play tennis or just stroll through the gardens.

The accommodation includes breakfast and you can also request meal services by booking in advance.

BEYOND WINE

Life itself is a journey, and Guimarães, the birthplace of Portugal, is a great starting point to explore this beautiful region rich in history, culture and nature. In 2012 Guimarães was crowned the European Capital of Culture, and in the same year, the neighboring city of Braga was considered the European Capital of Youth.

The area offers abundant cultural relics, colourful festival processions filled with contagious excitement, rich gastronomy and ancient manor houses that recently have been converted into hotels.

Lose yourself in the comforting sights of ancient churches and antique monuments that will take your breath away.



Guimarães

Outdoor Activities

In a region where Nature rules, there is an abundance of outdoor activities to choose from: watersports, such as rafting in Gerês or kite surfing on the magnificent coast that stands west.

Take in the refreshing scenery of the beaches on the coastline, the mountains coated in lush green vegetation, recovered manor houses, the awe-inspiring blend of traditional monumental and modern architecture, rich gastronomy and never ending festivities.

Festivities

One of the outstanding features that make Guimarães irresistible to tourists is the festive atmosphere that hangs over the city permanently, that helped the city to conquer the status of European Capital of Culture in 2012.

The streets of Guimarães become agog with festivities as crowds of people participate in the pilgrimage of S. Torcato during the 1st Sunday of July, where the colourful allegorical displays and processions depict scenes from the Saint's life. And on the 3rd of May in Barcelos, you can also participate in the pilgrimage dedicated to the sacredness of the Lord of the Crosses.



2. DOURO

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