

90 points Drink: 2012-2016

2011 Quinta do Cume Branco Reserva

The 2011 BRANCO RESERVA is essentially a Malvasia with 20% Rabigato and Viosinho blended in, sourced from vineyards approximately 600 meters in height. Lightly oaked, with just 30% of the juice held in French oak for just three months, it seems quite clean. I have really come to like this bottling from Cume and this is a lovely example, quite possibly the best yet. Graceful, beautifully balanced, crisp and intensely flavorful on the finish, this is simply a pleasure to drink, pure and bright with nary a hair out of place. For all of its elegance and harmony, it is reasonably persistent on the finish. It is hard to resist. I suspect it will age better than I think, but it will probably peak soon and over the next year or so. Do yourself a favor and drink it young, because the freshness is part of the fun here. There were 5,300 bottles p...

- Mark Squires (December, 2012)