



Quinta Vale Dona Maria Douro Red 2001

“Best Douro Red Wine”
“Best National Red Wine”

On the 4th of November 2003 an International panel of renowned wine tasters (from Italy, France, Spain, Britain, Australia and America) awarded Quinta Vale Dona Maria Douro Red 2001 the **“Best Douro Red Wine” (1st Prize)** and the **“Best National Red Wine” (1st Prize)**.

The blind tasting was held over a two-day period. The International panel chose the 10 best wines from 3 of the main wine producing regions of Portugal: the Douro, Dão and Alentejo.

On the second day the best wine from each region was awarded after another blind tasting. Quinta Vale Dona Maria Douro Red 2001 was awarded the 1st Prize as the best Douro wine. The 30 wines from the 3 regions were then put together in a blind tasting to determine the overall National winner. Quinta Vale Dona Maria Douro Red 2001 was awarded 1st Prize for the best National red wine.

The event, held at the Palácio Fronteria was hosted and organized by the **Portuguese Academy of Gastronomy** and Atlantis Crystal. The Minister of the Environment, the Minister of Agriculture and the Secretary of State for Tourism were present at the award ceremony.



Quinta Vale Dona Maria Douro Red 2001 is one of the excellent wines produced from Quinta Vale Dona Maria by resident wine maker Sandra Tavares da Silva, under the guidance of Domingos Soares Franco of José Maria da Fonseca and Cristiano van Zeller. These prestigious wine makers are working together to produce high quality table wines in the Douro Valley with the newly formed José Maria da Fonseca and van Zeller, S.A. a partnership of José Maria da Fonseca, Sucss. S.A. and Cristiano van Zeller, owner of Quinta Vale Dona Maria.