



# Cortes de Cima

Alentejo, Portugal Family Vineyards

## Cortes de Cima Reserva 2004

Cortes de Cima  
Vinho Regional Alentejano

|                         |   |
|-------------------------|---|
| <b>Varietal:</b>        | 52% Aragonez, 24% Touriga Nacional, 14% Syrah, 10% Cabernet Sauvignon |
| <b>Total Acids:</b>     | 5.8   |
| <b>Final pH:</b>        | 3.82  |
| <b>Residual Sugars:</b> | 3.6   |
| <b>Alcohol:</b>         | 14%   |
| <b>Barrel Ageing:</b>   | 12 months in FO (85%) and AO (15%)                                    |

Grown, produced and bottled at the family estate.  
Bottled unfined, filtered in July 2006  
Total production: 16.130 (75cl)  
Release Date: November 2008



### Vintage 2004

St. Peter baptized the very first and the very last day of Harvest with rain this year! The 5 weeks in between were warm days under bright blue skies and cool nights, perfect Alentejan harvest weather with optimal ripening conditions. In short, yields were lower, ripeness was very even, with healthy fruit, good acid levels, high color and alcohol levels. BUDBREAK took place in March with FLOWERING starting in early May. With the weather completely on our side, we were able to fine-tune the harvest just to our wishes. A single section of the vineyard, sometimes just sections of a single row, were selected each day for HARVESTING according to whether or not the grapes had reached the desired level of phenolic ripeness.

### Vinification

Made exclusively from selected grapes hand picked at optimum maturity from chosen sites in our own vineyards. Fermented without stems under temperature control, frequent delestage, followed by extended skin maceration to enhance varietal fruit characters, and to provide tannin structure and balance. Aged for 12 months in American oak (15%) and new French oak (85%) barrels, and then blended to give balanced varietal fruit and oak components. Bottled, unfined and filtered in July 2006.

### Our Winemaker's Comments

Deep red, garnet edges. Developing bouquet showing spicy oak, balsamic and mocha notes, mint, blackcurrant fruit. Earth and savoury fruit on the palate, oak complexity with hints of chocolate, soft, nice balance, good length, well structured tannins.

### Awards

- ◆ **Gold Medal** – Tempranillo Al Mundo – Espanha 2013
- ◆ **Gold Medal** – Vinalies Internationales – France 2009
- ◆ **BEST OF NATION - Portugal** - S.F. Intl Wine Competition - California 2008
- ◆ **Gold Medal** - S.F. Intl Wine Competition - California 2008
- ◆ **Great Gold Medal** - Concours Mondial du Vin - Bruxelles 2007
- ◆ **Gold Medal** - Mundus Vini - Germany 2007
- ◆ **Silver Medal (BEST IN CLASS)** - Intl Wine & Spirit Competition - UK 2007
- ◆ **Silver Medal** - Intl Wine & Spirit Competition - UK 2008
- ◆ **Silver Medal** - Challenge Intl. du Vin - Bordeaux 2008
- ◆ **Silver Medal** - International Wine Challenge - London 2007
- ◆ **Silver Medal** - Decanter World Wine Awards - UK 2008
- ◆ **Silver Medal** - Vinalies Internationales – France 2007

### Ratings

- 92 - *i-winereview*
- 91 – (Mark Squires) *Robert Parker*
- 91 – *Wine Enthusiast*
- 88 – *Wine Spectator*

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## Reviews

The 2004 RESERVA is usually this winery's best wine, and with good reason. I might give the nod to the '03, but this is better balanced, if not quite as rich and flavorful, although the flavors gradually emerge. This needed a good two hours to come alive and show what it has, fleshing out, picking up weight in the glass, and becoming more intense. As always, it is well structured and likely to age well. It is also elegant and lively, and likely to develop more character with some cellaring. After a few hours, its succulent, sweet finish became an absolute pleasure to taste. Drink 2009-2016. - *Mark Squires - eRobertParker.com - Dec. 2007*

Charming, well balanced wine with lots of red, ripe fruit and good wood integration. Jammy finish with a hint of spice. - *IWC 2007*

This is the star of the Cortés de Cima range, a powerful expression of rich fruit, but one tempered with a sympathetic, attractive structure, packed with black berry and ripe plum skin flavors, leaving plenty of tannins, but still finished with acidity and balance - *WE July 2008*

It reveals good acidity and volume with ripe black cherry and blue fruit flavors and notes of earth and smoky meat. The tannins are soft, and the wine is long on the palate with complex layers of fruit. Very rich and ready to drink, we highly recommend this wine. - *i-winereview 2010*

## Track Record

2003 Vintage – 92 – *(Mark Squires) Robert Parker*  
2003 Vintage – 91 – *Wine Enthusiast*  
2003 Vintage – Gold Medal – Vinalies Internationales – France 2006  
2003 Vintage – Gold Medal – S.F. Intl Wine Competition – California 2006  
2003 Vintage – Gold Medal – Mundus Vini – Germany 2006  
2003 Vintage – Trophy Prestige – Citadelles du Vin – Bordeaux 2006  
2003 Vintage – Silver Medal (BEST IN CLASS) – Intl Wine & Spirit Competition – UK 2006  
2003 Vintage – Silver Medal – Challenge Intl. du Vin – Bordeaux 2006  
2001 Vintage - 92 - *Wine Enthusiast 'Editors' Choice!*  
2001 Vintage - 91 - *(Mark Squires) Robert Parker*  
2001 Vintage - Trophée Prestige - Citadelles du Vin - Bordeaux 2004  
2001 Vintage - Gold Medal - Vinalies Internationales – France 2004  
2001 Vintage - Gold Medal - Concorso Enologico Internazionale Vinitaly 2004  
2001 Vintage - Gold Medal - Concours Mondial du Vin - Bruxelles 2004  
2001 Vintage - Gold Medal - Mundus Vini - Germany 2004  
2001 Vintage - Silver Medal - Challenge Intl. du Vin - Bordeaux 2004  
2001 Vintage - Silver Medal - Intl Wine & Spirit Competition - UK 2004  
1998 Vintage - 93 – *(Mark Squires) Robert Parker*  
1998 Vintage - 91 – *Wine Enthusiast*  
1998 Vintage – Silver Trophy– Les Olympiades du Vin, Bordeaux 2001  
1998 Vintage – Gold Medal – Intl. Wine Challenge, London 2002  
1998 Vintage – Gold Medal – Challenge du Vin, Bordeaux 2001  
1998 Vintage – Gold Medal – Concours Mondial, Bruxelles 2001  
1997 Vintage - 90 – *(Mark Squires) Robert Parker*  
1997 Vintage – Silver Medal – Challenge International du Vin, Bordeaux 1999  
1997 Vintage – Silver Medal – International Wine Challenge London, UK 1999