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Amps
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2024 Port Declaration

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Introduction

On Monday the 18th May I was invited by the Symington Family Estates, Fladgate Partnership and Quinta Do Noval to taste the 2024 wines, with the owners and wine makers from each company in attendance.

The 2024 Vintage is the first Fully Declared vintage since 2017. Nature gave the growers an almost perfect growing season. Perfect winter rainfall topped up all the water reserves, flowering and bud burst were almost perfect, and the summer was warm and hot at all the right times, so perfect ripeness was achieved. During the harvest evenings were cool so the fermentations were able to run at almost perfect temperatures to produce elegant and precise wines, rather than block busters.

I have been lucky enough to attend all Full Vintage Declarations since 1985, with 1985 being one of biggest volume vintages on record. At those declarations over the last 40 years, I have had some favourites, some okay wines and some that were not very appealing to me. Then we come to 2024 wines, this is the first vintage where all the wines are exceptional, and I would happily buy any of the ports we are offering. This exceptional quality of the wines has come about, because nature gave exceptional growing and harvest conditions, but the Port House wine makers have made really strict fruit selection in the vineyard and then after fermentation have been really rigorous in only selecting the very best barrels to go into their Vintage Ports. This rigorous selection has meant that 2024 is on record as the smallest ever vintage port release for a number of the houses.

These wines are exceptional and I encourage you to look at them, please get your orders in early. We expect demand to be strong, because of the quality and the tiny quantity of port available. Grahams Stones Terraces, Vesuvio Capella and Noval Nacional are available in tiny quantities, so if you wish to purchase them, we need to know now!

Please confirm if you would like your order Under Bond (please confirm your Bond Account Number etc) or Duty Paid.

Magnums and half bottles are available, prices upon request for specific wines.

Philip Amps
Chairman



Port Declarations

Vintage Port is well known amongst collectors for its ability and exceptional quality. For a Vintage Port to be produced it requires precise conditions to be met, and producers must feel like one of their wines is the very best it can be.

Declared years are few and far between, historically with only three or four each decade.

For a wine to officially be labelled as a Vintage Port a producer must submit the port to the IVDP (Instituto dos Vinhos do Douro e Porto) who are an independent body in the Douro who regulate wine and port production. Once wines have been submitted the IVDP assesses the quality of the vintage to decide if it qualifies as a Vintage Port. If a year is approved each house who submitted a wine can officially declare it as a Vintage Port.

2024 marks the first year since 2017 that all the Port Houses are releasing a Declaration, highlighting the excellence of wines produced.

2024 Report

“2024 marks a return to classical Douro harmony – wines that whisper rather than shout. After years of heat-driven power, these Vintage Ports seduce with architectural precision: taut structures wrapped in pure, crystalline fruit, where Touriga Franca finally reaches its apex alongside Nacional. This is elegance with backbone, refinement with staying power. And our first classic Vintage Port declaration in seven years – made not out of expectation, but because the wines truly demanded it.

The harvests from 2018 to 2023 were marked by challenging growth cycles with erratic rainfall and prolonged heatwaves. We made some exceptional wines, but they weren't classic. We drew on multi-generational experience of our vineyards, we adapted, and we innovated. We also waited. After seven years, 2024 delivered what we hoped for but couldn't force – the return of a classic Douro vintage. These are the wines that our family have always aspired to create in any given vintage since 1882. And we made the very best of it that we could.” – *Symington Estate*

The 23/24 growing season was made exceptional for several reasons. There was good rainfall over the winter, with flowering and budburst occurring in March. The early spring and summer had regular light rainfall keeping the fruit on track. July marked the start of the hot period with higher temperatures and little rainfall but cooler nights allowing fruit to ripen evenly. The end of August and early September saw temperatures stay moderate and extend the ripening period and allowed for a later harvest. In previous years several varieties have been fully harvested by the end of August so this return to a longer season has created better balance and giving the wines lovely rich fruity character.

Despite the fantastic conditions harvests were small and minimal Vintage Port has been produced; however, this year is marked clearly by its elegant lift in flavour.

Graham's



Graham's Vintage Ports are made from the finest wines produced at four estates across the Douro Valley, with Quinta dos Malvedos being the cornerstone since 1980. Characterised by an opulent style, they combine complexity and balance.

The Stone Terraces is produced from two low-yielding vineyards of just under 3 hectares laid out on magnificent stone terraces at Quinta dos Malvedos. The family only makes this wine when these vineyards sing beautifully and demand to be blended into a stand-alone Vintage Port. 2024 is just the sixth time they have come to this decision.

Graham's Vintage Port 2024

The 2024 offers alluring aromas of red and black fruits with subliminal mine and eucalyptus, completed by a floral rockrose character. Fabulously opulent and seductive on the palate, with kirsch, black plumb and traces of liquorice held in perfect balance by polished tannins and bright acidity.

Graham's The Stone Terraces 2024 Vintage Port

This Vintage Port reveals exquisite mango and passion fruit aromas. Sumptuous and irresistibly seductive with layers of complexity. The broad, all-encompassing structure reveals supreme purity of fruit, luxurious tannins and uplifting acidity.

Wine	Case Size	Case Price In Bond	Case Price Duty Paid	Order (Cases)
Graham's 2024 Vintage Port	6	£348	£450	
Graham's The Stone Terraces 2024 Vintage Port	3	£510	£640	

All wines must be purchased in full cases, with cases of magnums or half bottles available upon request.

Dow's

Dow's Vintage Ports are produced from Quinta do Bomfim and Quinta da Senhora da Ribeira, which have been farmed by our family since 1912. It is the combination of the finest wines from these estates that gives Dow's Vintage Ports their peppery concentration and powerful structure.



Dow's 2024 Vintage Port

This Dow's 2024 displays deep, brooding aromas of blackcurrant and blackberry, with hints of bitter chocolate, black pepper and powdered schist. Concentrated on the palate with a compact, tight-knit structure that gradually reveals sumptuous blackcurrant, plum and liquorice flavours, held in balance by vibrant acidity and peppery tannins with Dow's trademark drier finish.

Wine	Case Size	Case Price In Bond	Case Price Duty Paid	Order (Cases)
Dow's 2024 Vintage Port	6	£348	£450	

Warre's



Warre's Vintage Ports are defined by the high-altitude vineyards from which they originate and the large proportion of old vines at these estates. It is this unique combination that creates Warre's signature floral and fresh character, together with complexity.

Warre's 2024 Vintage Port

The 2024 is wonderfully fragrant and floral with notes of roses and violets, vividly fresh bright fruit brushed by a subtle pine breeze. Very fine and elegant on the palate – full yet silky and rounded. The sheer purity of fruit offers superb refinement and grace, with multilayered complexity from old mixed vines.

Wine	Case Size	Case Price In Bond	Case Price Duty Paid	Order (Cases)
Warre's 2024 Vintage Port	6	£282	£385	

Cockburn's

Cockburn's Vintage Ports are principally shaped by the vineyards at Quinta dos Canais in the Douro Superior and the large proportion of Touriga Nacional from this estate. The result are Vintage Ports characterised by a structured grip with a long, drying finish.



Cockburn's 2024 Vintage Port

The 2024 reveals bright red fruit aromas of cherry and strawberry with hints of kirsch, chocolate and anise, alongside floral notes of rockrose and herbal spices. Gorgeous palate of red fruits and peppery spice with an undertow of black tea and tobacco from grainy tannins. Kirsch notes lead to an attractive schist and flint finish with Cockburn's signature grip.

Wine	Case Size	Case Price In Bond	Case Price Duty Paid	Order (Cases)
Cockburn's 2024 Vintage Port	6	£264	£360	

Quinta do Vesuvio

Quinta do Vesúvio is one of the most magnificent estates in the Douro Valley, where all our Vintage Ports are made using the centuries-old method of foot-treading in granite lagares. Vesúvio Vintage Ports are incredibly complex with an unusual combination of finesse and power.



Capela do Vesúvio Vintage Port is an exceptional expression of a few special vineyards at the iconic Quinta do Vesúvio. The 2024 harvest produced wines with the power, structure and refinement required to produce a standalone Vintage Port that expresses the unique characteristics of these vines. This is only the sixth time that we have made this micro-terroir Vintage Port.

Quinta do Vesuvio 2024 Vintage port

The 2024 has alluring aromas of red and black fruit with herbal spice, black olives, pine, forest floor and wild rosemary. Captivating palate with seductive wild berry fruit, bright acidity and grainy tannins providing balance to the velvety fruit. The structure is taut yet supple – irresistible young whilst signalling considerable ageing potential. An enthralling Vesúvio, combining complexity and refinement.

Capela do Vesuvio 2024 Vintage Port

The 2024 resonates with Douro schist, herbal garrigue and hallmark Vesúvio lavender. The palate is expansive and powerful; its scope provided by the estate's old vine components. Multi-dimensional and complex, with monumental structure perfectly balanced by fine acidity, sculpted tannins and layers of fruit and spice. A formidable wine that will fascinate and linger in the memory.

Wine	Case Size	Case Price In Bond	Case Price Duty Paid	Order (Cases)
Quinta do Vesuvio 2024 Vintage Port	6	£282	£385	
Capela do Vesuvio 2024 Vintage Port	3	£390	£490	

Smith Woodhouse

Smith Woodhouse Vintage Ports are sourced from one of the Douro's finest areas, the Rio Torto Valley. The maturation pattern is typically later here, with an extended ripening cycle where the Touriga Franca thrives alongside old vines. The result is Vintage Ports with floral elegance and excellent structure.

Smith Woodhouse 2024 Vintage Port

The 2024 is immediately enchanting with engaging elegance and aesthetic purity. Seamless balance between attractive floral and herbal aromas and silky-smooth fruit, laced with kirsch and subtle traces of liquorice. Reflects the year's cooler growth cycle with keynote elegance and balance, alongside the substance and complexity of old vines. A spellbinding wine of irresistible charm and finesse.

Wine	Case Size	Case Price In Bond	Case Price Duty Paid	Order (Cases)
Smith Woodhouse 2024 Vintage Port	6	£222	£310	

Quinta De Roriz

Quinta de Roriz is one of the oldest estates in the Douro and was one of the first to sell wine under its own name. Owned by our Prats and Symington partnership, the estate produces Vintage Ports characterised by structure, balance, and a distinctive minerality influenced by tin and gold tailings at the property.

Quinta De Roriz 2024 Vintage Port

The exquisite, exuberant floral aromas attest to the stellar performance of the Touriga Franca in 2024. This is complemented by a sublime sense of purity of wild berry fruit, both red and black and the subtlest traces of liquorice and cassis, underscored by fresh, mineral acidity that provides superb elegance and balance.

Wine	Case Size	Case Price In Bond	Case Price Duty Paid	Order (Cases)
Quinta De Roriz 2024 Vintage Port	6	£228	£320	

Fonseca

Established as a Port company in 1815, Fonseca is noted for the stylistic consistency of its Vintage Ports which have been made by five generations of the Guimaraens family since its foundation. Its Vintage Ports are noted for their expressive, luscious fruitiness, which develops great opulence and complexity with age, as well as a voluptuous roundness on the palate supported by velvety mouth-filling tannins. Although they are capable of ageing for decades, the exuberant fruitiness of the Fonseca Vintage Ports makes them immensely enjoyable when young.



Fonseca 2024 Vintage Port

Rich, deep purple colour with a fine purple rim. The nose displays very fine and pure black fruit, a fusion of black cherry, cassis and blackcurrant aromas. An ethereal fragrance of violets, hints of tropical fruits and crushed mint fill the glass. Outstanding refinement and purity of fruit showcase the year with complexity and an attractive minerality. The palate is rich and luscious with taut tannins, texture and polish that coat the palate with hints of exotic wood, wild herbs and Hemingway mint. Succulent, concentrated woodland fruit, pairs wonderfully with the racing acidity and refreshing bright finish.

Wine	Case Size	Case Price In Bond	Case Price Duty Paid	Order (Cases)
Fonseca 2024 Vintage Port	6	£385	£499	

Croft

One of the original founding port houses, Croft traces its origins to 1588 when the company was established in England by Henry Thompson, a member of the Merchants Company of York. The reputation of Croft as a Vintage Port producer derives to a large extent from its ownership of Quinta da Roêda, one of the finest estates in the Douro Valley, and from such legendary wines as the Croft 1945, recognised as one of the finest of that landmark year.



Croft 2024 Vintage Port

Deep purple black with fine magenta rim. The heady, aromatic nose displays a characteristic plenitude of rich plump fruit, ripe strawberry and the exotic notes of rockrose, spice, clove and eucalyptus, signatures of Quinta da Roêda from where the blend heralds. An avalanche of exuberant fruit then coats the palate with discreet and well poised tannins. An elegant and aromatic Vintage Port, perfectly poised with opulence and restraint.

Wine	Case Size	Case Price In Bond	Case Price Duty Paid	Order (Cases)
Croft 2024 Vintage Port	6	£315	£420	

Taylor's

Taylor's was founded over three centuries ago in 1692 and has been family owned and run throughout its history. Taylor's is recognised as a benchmark for Vintage Port. Known for their elegance, longevity and distinctive scented character, they are blended from the finest wines of the or estates. Taylors represent the best of innovation and tradition, combining the most advanced viticultural practices with traditional foot treading, still unsurpassed as a method for making Vintage Port.



Taylor's 2024 Vintage Port

Characteristically stylish and racy, with a nose of dense blackcurrant and woodland fruit, overlaid with delicate herbal nuances and scents of rose petals and violets. The Taylor elegance and understatement conceal the wine's energy and vigour. On the palate, lean, tightly knit, sinewy tannins, beautifully balanced with vibrant and delineated fruit flavours and herbal notes, produce a stylish wine with the unmistakable Taylor combination of stamina and refinement.

Taylor's Sentinels 2024

Deep obsidian purple core with a narrow mulberry rim. The nose bursts with powerful woodland fruit, layered with rich blackcurrant, dark plum and ripe cherries that leap from the glass. Subtle notes of black cherry interwoven with delicate hint of rose petal. The fruit shows elegance and restraint. On the palate, it reveals remarkable freshness and energy with an appealing precision and lift. Lavendar and gentle herbal tones all complement the flavours of damson and plums, building steadily to a long and persistent finish

Wine	Case Size	Case Price In Bond	Case Price Duty Paid	Order (Cases)
Taylor's 2024 Vintage Port	6	£385	£499	
Taylor's Sentinels 2024	6	£200	£280	

All wines must be purchased in full cases, with cases of magnums or half bottles available upon request.

Quinta do Noval

A historic name with an iconic status in the world of wine. In the heart of the Douro wines have been made

here since the early 18th century. It is home to one of the only ungrafted vineyards in the whole of the Douro, which is where the iconic 'Nacional' port comes from. Balance, harmony, finesse and elegance define these great wines, which are declared only when they meet Noval's exacting standards.



Quinta do Noval 2024 Vintage Port

Made with wines from ten different parcels, shows a deep colour and a refined, expressive nose of black cherry, wild berries and violets, with notes of rockrose, redcurrent, subtle spice and a hint of cocoa. The palate is full-bodied and concentrated, with firm yet polished tannins, balanced acidity and remarkable purity of fruit. Precise and harmonious in structure, it is lifted by a mineral freshness that brings definition and poise. The finish is long, persistent and elegant, revealing great depth, delicate hints of dried flowers and clear ageing potential.

Quinta do Noval Nacional 2024 Vintage Port

A very deep, almost opaque colour and an intensely complex nose of ripe wild berries, black cherry and plum, underscored by notes of dark chocolate, liquorice and delicate spice. Dense, concentrated and supremely focused on the palate, it combines great depth with remarkable purity of fruit, broad tannins and a freshness that brings precision and dynamism. The finish is long, precise and persistent. A Nacional of great structure and distinction, built for very long ageing.

Wine	Case Size	Case Price In Bond	Case Price Duty Paid	Order (Cases)
Quinta do Noval 2024 Vintage Port	6	£399	£435	
Quinta do Noval Nacional 2024 Vintage Port	1	£900	£940	

All wines must be purchased in full cases, with cases of magnums or half bottles available upon request.

Kopke

Founded in 1638, Kopke is the oldest Port Wine House. From the terroir of the Douro to the ethereal lodges of Vila Nova de Gaia, Kopke's story is one of experience and dedication, reflected in unique nectars: a testament to mastery and passion passed down from generation to generation.



KOPKE

THE OLDEST PORT WINE HOUSE

Kopke 2024 Vintage Port

A restrained and still slightly closed nose, revealing notes of tart fruit, with hints of bergamot, dark chocolate, cedar and subtle menthol nuances. On the palate, it is intense and full-bodied, with vibrant acidity balanced by well-present tannins, lending the wine both character and excellent ageing potential. The finish is long and persistent, in keeping with the distinctive style of Kopke Vintage Ports.

Wine	Case Size	Case Price In Bond	Case Price Duty Paid	Order (Cases)
Kopke 2024 Vintage Port	6	£182	£260	

Quinta de la Rosa

Established in 1815, Quinta de la Rosa has a long history of growing grapes for Port wines although for a while they sold their grapes to other houses for them to use. Production was brought in house in 1988 and has gone from strength to strength. Known for their approachable yet elegant style.

Quinta de la Rosa 2024 Vintage Port

What we made really stands out for its fresh and exuberant fruit, as well as its remarkable elegance. It is a wine whose ageing potential relies more on excellent acidity and balance, rather than concentration or tannic intensity, though it is a wine that will surely stand the test of time.

Wine	Case Size	Case Price In Bond	Case Price Duty Paid	Order (Cases)
Quinta de la Rosa 2024 Vintage Port	6	£162	£235	