

## ESPORÃO distinguished with the Innovation/Investigation 2017 Award by Revista de Vinhos



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#istoéesporão

Over the past decade, Esporão has strived to change its production methods to a new agricultural model that enables us to make better products. At the 21st edition of the ‘wine Oscars’ hosted by the specialised publication Revista de Vinhos, this continuous effort to investigate and innovate was recognised with the “Innovation/Investigation 2017” Award.

Revista de Vinhos magazine praises the agricultural investigation and restructuring efforts that, over the past 10 years, have enabled Esporão to transition the entire agricultural area to organic farming methods, currently making it the largest organic vineyard in Portugal. This change was founded on a thorough study of the soils, the ecosystem and the buildings – wineries and olive oil mill –, which were built using natural methods and materials, applying the circular economy. Also noted was the significant growth of the ampelographic field to study grape varieties, initiated in 2010, now occupying 10 hectares and which contains approximately 189 national and international varieties.

The [optimised management of natural resources](#) and sustainable [agricultural practises](#) applied by Esporão, make this a forward-thinking company. Producing in a rational and responsible manner through the recovery and development of the soil’s fertility, maximising the balance between plagues and auxiliary species, reducing water consumption and using organic compost (using by-products generated by our own activity), among others, are, for Esporão, not only compatible but essentially the way to achieve better quality products.

**About Esporão:** Founded in 1973 by José Roquette and Joaquim Bandeira, Esporão is one of the leading wine companies in Portugal. Playing a predominant role in the national and international projection of Alentejo and the Douro, Esporão has also become an ambassador of Portuguese culture, developing its activities in a sustainable manner and building close relationships with clients and consumers all over the world.

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Esporão has operated in the Alentejo region since 1973, where it produces iconic wines such as Esporão Reserva and Monte Velho, as well as extra virgin olive oils. Also part of the Esporão project is Quinta dos Murças, an estate in the Douro region that has been producing *terroir* wines with the Esporão quality guarantee since 2008.

Esporão products are sold in all types of shops and restaurants in more than 50 countries worldwide. Esporão's holistic approach to implementing a wide range of innovative sustainable practises has led to national and international recognition, including the prestigious "Sustainability of the year award" at the "The Drinks Business Green Awards 2013". In 2014, Esporão won the "European Business Awards for the Environment" in the category "Products & Services".

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