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Portugal



Wine

- *V Vinho Verde*: Loureiro 60% and Trajadura 40% / Vidonya apparently was a Russian princess, but the origins of this name are lost to history and it's now commonly referred to by the initial V. This is a wine of Portugal's coastal northwest, a verdant place very much influenced by the Atlantic due to the east-west orientation of its river valleys, allowing easy penetration of weather patterns.

Loureiro's name refers to laurel because of the wine's aromas. It's also cultivated across the border in Rias Baixas, where it's often blended with Albarino, and it's prized for scents of orange and white flowers as well as for acidity. Trajadura (also found in Rias Baixas) shares Loureiro's fresh and crisp fruit but is its counter in terms of offering lower acid and richer body to the mix.

What V does so well is offer a brisk glass reminiscent of springtime rain. It does so with delightfully low alcohol across a dry palate of fresh, clean fruit.

Traditionally, Vinho Verde is a non-vintage wine, all consumed within a year of bottling. The Lot number for V on the back label shows the year of bottling, which means that the wine comes from the previous year's harvest.