

Chasing Harvest Wines



Chasing Harvest was created by husband and wife, Michael Kush and Jennifer Kingen Kush from Chicago.

'Chasing harvest' is a wine industry term that describes travel between the northern and southern hemispheres for extra vintage seasons in one year.

With just our passports and backpacks, a passion for adventure, travel, and wine inspired us to 'chase harvest' across five continents, eight countries, and 25 vintages. We use our experiences of the world's greatest wine regions to handcraft our limited wines.

Our journey has taken us all over the world from the vineyards of Burgundy and Cahors, France; to the slopes of the Mosel; the Western Cape of South Africa; Sonoma, California; Italy and Argentina; historic Douro Valley, Portugal and its antipodes Central Otago, New Zealand. We are grateful to all of the talented winemakers we have worked with along the way.

Of all the world's wine regions that we've worked, Central Otago, New Zealand and the Douro Valley, Portugal have inspired us most where we have now worked for the past 8 years.



Both locations feature epic scenery, but couldn't be more different in climates, traditions and wines. Our goal is to spare no effort in crafting characterful wines that reflect these unique regions.

Chasing Harvest Label



Our label is based on a classic 1950's bus roll. 'Making All Stops,' it lists the destinations of our travel. Each country represents a place we have worked the harvest developing our craft as winemakers.

This concept captures the spirit of our lives and project because for us, the journey has always been part of the adventure.

2011 Chasing Douro DOC Vinho Tinto, Portugal, (150 cases produced)



THE WINE

2011 was a unique and historic vintage. The wine shows great concentration and intensity, featuring aromas of dark fruits and berries, with subtle mineral, earth, and mocha characteristics. The wine has great texture with good acidity and long and well developed tannins. Although, something to be enjoyed at the moment, it can certainly be aged for many years.

THE VINEYARDS

This wine is sourced from the best sections of the Quinta da Costa single vineyard. The Quinta da Costa is owned by Miguel Morais and has been in his family for at least five generations. The vineyard is located in the upper Pinhao Valley of the Cima Corgo section of the Douro and features the very rocky schist based soils for which the region is famous.

THE VINTAGE

The growing season started early with a hot and dry spring, moderate temperatures during the early part of the summer, but then again very hot temperatures during August. Yields were very low in the vineyards and the fruit showed great concentration with good acidity and well developed tannins when harvesting began mid-September.

WINEMAKER'S NOTES:

This wine continues to be our best effort from the Quinta da Costa historic single vineyard from the much heralded 2011 vintage. The backbone of this wine are the old 'Vinhos Velhos' vineyards of the quinta reaching 100 years in age that feature dozens of unique Portuguese varietals. Although, the principal varietals in the wine are Touriga Nacional, Tinta Roriz, and Touriga Franca.

The fruit was carefully hand sorted back at the winery and the wines were fermented cool and extracted gently. After gentle pressing the wines were racked to French oak barrels, the wines remained in barrel for 22 months before a final blend was decided. The wine was then aged in tank to marry the wine until bottling.

Cheers!

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