



# Quinta do Noval

## A Port Vineyard for the Ages



Quinta do Noval was first owned, for more than a century, by the Rebello Valente family who were given it by the Marquês do Pombal, Portugal's Prime Minister at the time. It was later owned by the Van Zeller family who had to rebuild following a catastrophic fire in 1981. Noval was sold to AXA insurance group in May 1993.

Noval is thriving under the ownership of insurance group AXA with Managing Director Christian Seely, ensuring that their Vintage Port remains one of the most sought-after wines. AXA also has several impressive holdings in Bordeaux: Châteaux Pichon-Longueville, Suduiraut, Petit- Village and Pibran.

Unique to Noval, they chose intense fumigation to fight phylloxera in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century rather than grafting to American root-stocks, hence the Nacional. In the mid-1990's 60% of the estate's vineyards were taken out, and the terraces were rebuilt and replanted with the best quality grape varieties, giving one of the best sites in Portugal the quality it deserves.

Noval has a few interesting 'firsts' in their history as well: the first stenciled bottles (1958), the first house to introduce a Late Bottled Vintage (1958), and the first to introduce blended tawnies with an indication of average age. They were also the first major Port house to store and blend all of their wines at the Quinta, rather than warehouses in Oporto.

#ItsGoodToBeUs  
Follow us Online

**CUTTING  
EDGE**  
SELECTIONS

 @CUTTINGEDGESELECTIONS  
 CUTTING EDGE SELECTIONS  
WWW.CUTTINGEDGESELECTIONS.COM