

When in 1989 he entered the winemaking team led by master Fernando Nicolau de Almeida, Luís Sottomayor knew he was in the right company to take part in making the finest wines of the Douro. Today, his skills recognized and the quality of his work proven, he heads the winemaking team for Casa Ferreirinha, a responsibility he assumed in January 2007.

ALTHOUGH LUÍS SOTTOMAYOR'S CAREER TRAJECTORY HAS AFFORDED HIM ENRICHING EXPERIENCES IN SEVERAL OTHER NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL WINE-GROWING REGIONS, HIS COMMITMENT TO DOURO AND PORT WINES IS UNQUESTIONABLE AND HAS SO FAR SEEN HIM AWARDED THE 2010 WINEMAKER OF THE YEAR AWARD IN THE FORTIFIED WINES CATEGORY BY REVISTA DE VINHOS, ONE OF THE NATION'S MOST PRESTIGIOUS WINE PUBLICATIONS. IN 2012 HE WAS NOMINATED FOR THE WINEMAKER OF THE YEAR ACCOLADE AT THE INTERNATIONAL WINE CHALLENGE AND EVENTUALLY WENT ON TO RECEIVE YET ANOTHER DISTINCTION FROM REVISTA DE VINHOS, THIS TIME FOR OUTRIGHT 2012 WINEMAKER OF THE YEAR.

AUTHOR OF WORLD-FAMOUS WINES SUCH AS BARCA-VELHA AND QUINTA DA LEDA, LUÍS EXPRESSES GREAT PRIDE IN THE OPPORTUNITY HE HAS BEEN GIVEN TO PERPETUATE A STORY WITHOUT PARALLEL IN THE WORLD OF WINES, WHILST HIGHLIGHTING THE CREATIVITY AND DARING AND OF THOSE WHO FIRST SET OUT, UNAIDED BY THE TECHNOLOGICAL ADVANCES OF TODAY, TO PRODUCE WINES OF A TIMELESS EXCELLENCE.

BORN IN MOREIRA DA MAIA, MARRIED AND A FATHER OF THREE CHILDREN, LUÍS SOTTOMAYOR HAS A FULL ACADEMIC TRAINING THAT INCLUDES COURSES IN OENOLOGY FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF DIJON IN BURGUNDY, FRANCE AND CHARLES STURT UNIVERSITY, AUSTRALIA, IN ADDITION TO A POST-GRADUATE COURSE IN OENOLOGY AT THE ESCOLA SUPERIOR DE BIOTECNOLOGIA FROM UNIVERSIDADE CATÓLICA DO PORTO.

ARGUING THAT THE SECRET OF GREAT WINES RESTS ON THE PASSION OF THOSE WHO WRITE THEIR STORIES IN VINEYARDS AND CELLARS, LUÍS LIKES TO EMPHASIZE THE EFFORT MADE AT SOGRAPE VINHOS TO PRESERVE AND ENHANCE THE LEGACY INHERITED FROM LARGE AND PRESTIGIOUS BRANDS, BY COMBINING THE VALUES OF TRADITION WITH EMERGING DESIRES AND TRENDS FOR THE FUTURE. AN AVOWED SOCCER SUPPORTER, LUÍS SOTTOMAYOR DEVOTES SOME OF HIS LEISURE TIME TO RUGBY, HORSE-RIDING AND HUNTING.



Luís Sottomayor, Winemaker of Casa Ferreirinha.