



## 2021 Casal das Aires Alicante Bouschet Vinhas Velhas

Rating	Release Price	Drink Date
90	\$60	2025 - 2030
Reviewed by	Issue Date	Source
Luis Gutiérrez	May 29, 2025	

**Producer:** Casal das Aires

**From:** Portugal, Tejo,

**Color:** Red

**Type:** Table

**Sweetness:** Dry

**Variety:** Alicante Bouschet

The red 2021 Alicante Bouschet Vinhas Velhas was produced with grapes from 54-year-old vines on sandy and stony soils. The bunches were foot trodden for 24 hours and then had a soft vinification to limit extraction. One of the fermentation vessels broke, so they lost two-thirds of the production. What remained was mostly press wine that matured in neutral barrels for 10 months. This is dark and almost opaque, with a very different profile from the 2022 I tasted next to it. It's ripe and dense, rustic, with notes of prunes and earth. It has contained ripeness, 13% alcohol and good freshness, reflected by a pH of 3.44 and 5.56 grams of acidity, with a palate that combines freshness with plenty of tannins. This is almost an anecdote, reflecting the accident. A total of 480 bottles, 30 magnums and 10 double magnums were produced. It was bottled in July 2023.