

# VASCO AND THE EXPLORERS

## Alvarinho (aka Albariño)

Vasco da Gama was a Portuguese explorer and the first European to reach India by sea. The first expedition left Lisbon in 1497 and followed the route pioneered by earlier explorers along the eastern coast of Africa, before heading south across the Equator. For over three months they sailed the open ocean before successfully making landfall once again on the African coast.

Da Gama never set out to colonise the Cape and neither is there evidence of him ever having populated the land with vines. But if he had, the complexion of South Africa's vineyards today might be influenced more by Iberian rather than French varieties.

---

Wine of Origin: Coastal Region

Vintage: 2019

Alcohol: 12.5% vol

Imported By: [www.dreyfus-ashby.co.uk](http://www.dreyfus-ashby.co.uk)



*"I am not afraid of the darkness. Real death is preferable to a life without living." Vasco da Gama*