



THE EYRIE VINEYARDS PINOT GRIS 2012

Appellation: Dundee Hills; Willamette Valley; Oregon; USA

Winemaker: Jason Lett

Closure: Diam

Alcohol: 12.5%



Vineyard

In 1970, David Lett produced five cases of the first Pinot gris in the New World. Aware of its potential, Lett expanded his acreage of Pinot gris until it made up about half of Eyrie's production. Today, it is the most widely planted white variety in Oregon and the second most popular white wine in the States. Fermented and aged in stainless steel sur lees for up to one year, Eyrie Pinot gris goes through 100% natural malo-lactic fermentation.

Tasting Notes

Varietal character, emphasizing texture without sacrificing typical brightness. A full spectrum of ripe fruit aromas, apricot and tangerine layering over hints of white gardenia and wet river stone. Balanced weight and acidity on the palate finishes with a gripping note reminiscent of stone fruit

Vintage

The 2012 vintage was rather unusual in Oregon history, more like 1981 than any recent vintage. Spring was a bit warmer and wetter than average, however, by the crucial June flowering period temperatures had dropped. Bloom was delayed and first flowers appeared almost 2 weeks later than 2011. A late June rain interfered with the fertility of the flowers, and as a result yields reduced drastically below normal. July through August were extremely dry, offset by lower than normal temperatures. Harvest began perfectly on time on October 5, and lasted 12 days. The combination of dry, sunny, and cool conditions led to relatively dense extract and tannins. We picked with an especially keen regard for high natural acidity. As was our hope, the vintage's level of textural richness compliments the austerity and the wines have very good natural balance.

Reviews

...Exhibits bright citricity allied to cyanic peach kernel and apple pip that make for an invigorating as well as refreshing performance, yet evinces a hint of textural allure apt to blossom into a creamy patina over the next couple of years. And while there is an overt sense of density on display, it's allied to levity. This outstanding value is likely – based on considerable track record – to drink well through at least 2020. **90 points. Wine Advocate Oct 2013**

