

2005

OREGON PINOT GRIS

TASTING NOTES

Rich and ripe. The color of the 2005 Pinot Gris is yellow gold with beautiful flashes of emerald. Powerful aromatics are redolent of ripe citrus fruits, acacia flowers, tropical fruits (mango, papaya and kiwi), lychee, powdered sugar, honeysuckle, nectarines and pineapple. A concentrated wine with ripe acidity. The finish rolls seamlessly off the mid-palate and lasts forever. The lasting impression is a wine of great ripeness and opulence balanced by wonderful juiciness and succulence. The 2005 Pinot Gris will drink wonderfully for the next 2 years.

WINE

The 2005 A to Z Pinot Gris is crafted from several different lots of wine, some produced by A to Z from purchased grapes and others selected and blended from over a dozen of Oregon's best estates. A multitude of Pinot Gris clones and styles of winemaking are represented as facets in this multidimensional blend. A small portion of the wine did undergo partial malolactic fermentation for a creamy mouthfeel, but for the most part malolactic fermentation was blocked to retain bright acidity to balance the ripe character of the vintage. Fermented and aged in stainless steel and a small percentage of old French oak barrels for 6 months, it was then bottled in early March 2006. This wine is a great example of the 2005 Pinot Gris vintage in Oregon. 22,700 - 750 ml bottle cases were made. Large formats available upon request.

VINTAGE

Cold, wet weather made for a late budbreak and flowering. Mildew threatened into July. Horrible shatter translated into very low yields for two years in a row now. A cooler summer than normal, but some hotter periods towards the end of August and beginning of September. Picking did not begin until early October but was interrupted by a bit of rain and cold and finished well into November under beautiful skies. Consequently these are some of the best wines we have seen for years.

A to Z

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