



2007 Benton-Lane Willamette Valley Pinot Gris

Grape Source:	Benton-Lane Estate and selected Willamette Valley vineyards
Appellation:	Willamette Valley
Sugar at Harvest:	22.7° Brix
Harvest Dates:	September 27th – October 13th
Total Acidity:	6.4 grams per liter
pH:	3.39
Alcohol:	13.5 % by volume

Growing Season: The Benton-Lane estate vineyard experienced warmer than usual springtime weather in 2007. This continued into mid-June, and the dry and windy weather during bloom led to very efficient pollination of the grape cluster flowers. The summer months were cooler than normal, without heat extremes, which led to slow, even maturation of the grape clusters. By early September it appeared that a near perfect harvest was in the works until autumn rains arrived in late September and only let up for brief periods until mid-October. Fortunately, most of the grapes attained ripeness just as the rain was arriving, and the cool temperatures prevented mold growth. The resulting wines are lower in alcohol but lively and fragrant, with nice mature fruit flavors and moderate tannins.

Vinification: The whole grape clusters were loaded directly into the press to minimize oxidation and juice contact with the skins, as the skins contain phenolic compounds that can make the resulting wine bitter. The Pinot Gris juice was fermented in stainless steel tanks at a very cool temperature to maintain the fresh aromas and flavors of the fruit. The wine did not undergo malo-lactic fermentation so as not to overpower the delicate flavors. The wine was bottled early with a twist-off closure to maximize retention of these fresh flavors and crisp acidity.

The Wine: This pale-straw colored Pinot Gris displays generous floral, pear, and citrus aromas. On the palate, this wine is beautifully balanced. Initially crisp with zesty lime and grapefruit notes, the texture rounds out with pear and Granny Smith apple flavors to conclude with a delightfully bright and lingering finish.

Production: 2,912 cases

Suggested retail: \$16.00

BENTON-LANE WINERY

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