



2009 Benton-Lane Willamette Valley Pinot Gris

Grape Source:	Benton-Lane Estate and select Willamette Valley vineyards
Appellation:	Willamette Valley, Oregon
Harvest Dates:	September 24 th – October 9 th
Sugar at Harvest:	23.2° Brix – 26.9° Brix
Finished TA:	6.5 grams per liter
Finished pH:	3.37
Finished RS:	4.1 grams per liter (.41%)
Alcohol:	13.85 % by volume
Winemaker:	Chris Mazepink

Growing Season: Spring began in the 2009 growing season with ideal conditions leading to potentially high quantity yields. The long, hot summer that followed increased concerns about high alcohol and raisin-like flavors. Then, after a succinct heat spike in September, the October harvest season was cooler and uneven, allowing the final phase of ripening to occur gradually. The resulting wines exhibit lush flavors with round tannins forming luxuriant textures without alcohol or acidity out of balance.

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 malolactic fermentation so as not to overpower the delicate flavors. The wine was bottled in early March with a twist-off closure to maximize retention of these fresh flavors.

The Wine: The bouquet of this wine just explodes from the glass with aromas of apple blossoms, white peaches and wet stones. On the palate, layers of honeysuckle, nectarines and lemon oil coat the entirety of the mouth. The finish is long and pure with lingering flavors of red star grapefruit. This could very well be our best Pinot Gris to date!

Production: 5,042 cases **Suggested retail:** \$17.00

Accolades: The previous vintage of this wine was the highest rated Pinot Gris in Wine & Spirits magazine's annual "100 Best Wines of the Year"

BENTON-LANE WINERY

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