



2012 Traditions Pinot Gris

Overview

In 1997, we planted our first vines in the Eastern Washington AVAs of the Columbia Valley and Wahluke Slope. At first glance, Eastern Washington is not your typical wine country. It's a remote, windswept, high desert dotted with sagebrush and tumbleweeds. But our family had been farming here since the mid-1950s, and we believed the region's moderate temperatures, low rainfall and sandy soils were ideal for grapes. Eight years later, after selling fruit to many of Washington's preeminent wineries, we started producing our own wines from the best vineyard blocks. Today, winemaker Joshua Maloney is handcrafting an award-winning spectrum of Milbrandt Vineyards wines from across the 2,000 acres of our renowned estate vineyards.

-Butch & Jerry Milbrandt

Vineyards

Wine grapes for our 2012 Traditions Pinot Gris were harvested from our cool climate vineyards within the vast Columbia Valley AVA. One third of the fruit came from the newest AVA in Washington State, the Ancient Lakes of the Columbia Valley AVA, and our much sought after Evergreen Vineyard. At most of our sites, our vines are planted on south-facing slopes to increase sun exposure in the summer and promote air circulation in the spring and fall. The weather in 2012 was typical of the Columbia Valley: a mild winter and a warm, dry spring. It was warm enough during the day to fully ripen grapes, yet cool enough at night to ensure bright acids and firm tannins. Director of Viticulture Jason Schlagel said, "The 2012 harvest was probably one of the best I've seen."

Tasting Notes

Our 2012 Pinot Gris is a dry and refreshing style with aromas of citrus fruit, white peaches and notes of honeysuckle. This wine is medium-bodied and crisp on the palate with lively flavors of melon and orchard fruits. Our Pinot Gris pairs beautifully with antipasto, summer salads, ripe white cheeses and simple seafood such as steamed clams and oysters.

Words from our Winemaker

"Our 2012 Pinot Gris is highly aromatic with bright citrus and luscious lychee fruit aromas. Lively and refreshing with flavors of ripe pear, crisp apple, lime zest and a hint of underlying minerality."

-Joshua Maloney

Composition	100% Pinot Gris
AVA	Columbia Valley
Alcohol	12.5%
TA	.83
pH	3.3
Harvest	October 2012
Aging	Stainless steel
Cases	9,000