



Pinot Gris 2009

YAKIMA VALLEY

WINEMAKER'S NOTES

Our 2009 vintage yields fresh melon and peach aromas and flavors enhanced by herb and orange peel components, a rich mouth-feel and great acidity. This fruit driven wine was made in the vineyard with grapes picked as they moved from slightly under-ripe to ripe; much like picking a peach as it transforms from delicate peach flavors to riper, richer, more complex flavors. The result is a sophisticated, refreshing, mouth-watering Northwest version of the Alsatian classic; a consistent summer-time pleaser by itself that is nicely paired with seafood, poultry and Cajun cuisine throughout the year.

VITICULTURIST'S NOTES

Fruit was sourced from our own Brooks Vineyard. The estate vineyard is located in the cooler Yakima Valley appellation which gives this early ripening variety more time on the vine to develop ripe fruit flavors while maintaining good acidity and lower alcohol. Deficit drip irrigation, a modified vertical shoot trellis system and prescribed leaf removal are all employed to balance the fruit's need for sun protection and air flow.

GROWING SEASON

The 2009 growing season was warm but without the heat spikes that we can get in July and August. It continued warm through early September and gave us an early harvest which showcased this cool vineyard site on the floor of the Yakima Valley. The grapes were harvested on Sept 13th.

WINEMAKING

Careful harvesting at cool nighttime temperatures and gentle pressing are essential for this variety. The juice was inoculated with CY3079 yeast and put through a long, cool, controlled fermentation. The wine was both fermented and aged in stainless steel vessels to preserve the fresh melon and peach flavors offered by the vineyard. Our screwcap closure ensures that the wine reaches the glass as the winemaker intended.

MERCER ESTATES

Mercer Estates is dedicated to producing distinctive wines through equal passions for grape growing and winemaking. With over 100 years of agricultural history in Horse Heaven Hills, Yakima Valley and Columbia Valley; we employ award winning, sustainable farming practices that ensure our wines express the true character of our vineyards. Get to know our winemaking families at www.mercerwine.com.

"Two spirited wine growing families that embody the flavor and soul of their lands".

TECHNICAL NOTES

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| Appellation | Yakima Valley |
| Blend | 100% Pinot Gris |
| Alcohol | 12.3% |
| T.A. | 0.60 g/100 mL |
| pH | 3.21 |
| Residual Sugar | 0.6% |

