



# 2019 The Eyrie Vineyards PINOT GRIS THE EYRIE



## THE WINE

This Pinot gris is a liquid manifesto. We believe that Pinot gris has all the ability of Pinot noir to reflect the nuances of site, craft, and vine age, and this wine is our statement of proof. The grapes come from the first Pinot gris vines planted in the New World, and we've given special attention in order to pay homage to these old vines. The wine is light gold in color, with crunchy apple and a touch of five spice coming through on the front palate. A rich mid palate balances creamy ripe pear and floral tones, and leads to a lengthy, polished finish.

## THE VITICULTURE & VINIFICATION

The desire to stay true to place and to limit our impact on nature educates all of Eyrie's viticulture and winemaking practices. Insecticides, herbicides, or systemic chemicals have never been used in the vineyards. Today all of our estate is certified organic.

To best translate the flavors of the vineyard into the wines, the wine was fermented from the juice by wild yeasts. It was then aged in specially-made stainless steel barrels on the lees for a year. In addition, we chose to retain the natural crystals that form in the bottle when it is chilled. These crystals and the richness of long age help accent the natural expression of the grapes that came into the winery... and also contribute to incredible aging potential.

## THE VINTAGE

2019 was perhaps the most "Burgundian" growing season we have yet had. Typically the Willamette Valley features wet winters and dry summers, whereas Burgundy distributes its rain evenly throughout the year. In 2019 we had a more Burgundian pattern, with rain and cooler days scattered throughout the summer. Vines make sugar from air, sunlight, and water. 2019's well-timed rains increased sweetness while still retaining acidity - which leads to some of the best qualities a wine can have: refreshing and food friendly when young, but with superb cellar potential. 2019 is remarkable for another reason. This vintage was our 50th pick, and our 55th year growing grapes. On September 24th, 1970, with the help of friends, the first generation of Lettys picked their very first harvest. The second generation started our pick in 2019 on September 24th as well, a fitting call-back on which to enter our 6th decade of winemaking.

## TECHNICAL NOTES

|                         |                             |
|-------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Average Vine Age:       | 53 years                    |
| Estate vineyard:        | The Eyrie, Dundee Hills     |
| Vineyard certification: | Organic                     |
| Fermentation & Aging:   | Small stainless, wild yeast |
| Bottling Date:          | September 2020              |
| Production in cases:    | 151                         |
| pH:                     | 3.35                        |
| Total acidity:          | 5.8                         |
| Alcohol % by volume     | 13.13                       |

## AVERAGE TEMPERATURES & RAINFALL

