

Phelps Creek

V I N E Y A R D S

2021 Phelps Creek Pinot Gris, Columbia Gorge

WINEMAKER COMMENT

We combine our limited amount of estate fruit with Pinot Gris grown on Washington's Underwood Mountain. Both vineyards are within eyesight of each other across the Columbia River. The cool climate cultivation results in beautiful acid balance. Our volcanic soils add spice and mineral elements. The 100% Stainless Steel fermentation brings a beautiful balance of fruit and bright acidity.

PHELPS CREEK VINEYARDS

The most westerly vineyard on the Oregon side of the Columbia Gorge AVA, Phelps Creek is nestled amongst the foothills of Mt Defiance at 1200 feet elevation. Established in 1990, our small boutique winery focuses on estate grown Pinot Noir and Chardonnay varietals, annually producing 5,000 cases of wine in total. Vineyard care takes center stage in our wine production, where sustainable agricultural practices combined with careful management of the fruit yields on the vines lead to the noted luxurious intensity within our bottle.

VINTAGE

The 2021 vintage provided a wild ride, yet ultimately resulted in intense flavors and a beautiful Fall weather harvest. The most unusual occurrence brought Oregon 110+ temperature during June, right on the cusp of flowering. Never before had we experienced such intense heat so early in the season. The vines handled the environmental furnace with aplomb and just paused in their growth. Once the weather passed, the vines exploded in growth, somewhat like those "chia pets" of late night advertisements. We actually switched up our farming and performed vine hedging prior to leaf removal just to effectively control the canopy. Harvest began about the middle of September, but the we were blessed with cool nights which slowed down ripening and preserved natural acidity. During the Summer we proudly became LIVE certified for sustainable wine-growing.

TASTING NOTES

High elevation fruit brings beautifully bright acidity, balanced with sweet notes of green apple and pear laced with a hint of lavender and thyme on the nose. The perfect sip for the upcoming summer season. Structured to age and develop further intensity in the bottle.



REVIEWS

90 Points - VINOUS - Eric Guido (January 2024)

"The 2021 Pinot Gris wafts up with the wild blend of lemon oils, orange blossoms, sweet spices and nectarines. It washes across the palate, perfumed with crunchy orchard fruits giving way to a saline tinge toward the close. This finishes with admirable length and spicy, keeping the mouth watering for more. The 2021 is an understated beauty." - E.G

BOTTLE NOTES

86% Underwood Mountain
14% Estate Pinot Gris

Brix at Harvest: 23.

Bottling date: March 2022

Alcohol per Volume: 13.1%

Whole Cluster Press

Stainless Tank Fermentation 90%
Barrel Elevage 10%

Residual Sugar 1.32 g/L

Case Produced: 521