

# 2016 PINOT GRIS

**COLUMBIA VALLEY** 

### TASTING NOTES

"Our Pinot Gris style falls between the lighter Italian Pinot Grigio and the richer, rounder Pinot Gris from Alsace. The Chateau Ste. Michelle Pinot Gris offers fresh flavors of juicy pear, melon and a hint of spice. This wine is a perfect match with scallops or halibut."

Bob Bertheau, Head WINEMAKER

### **VINTAGE**

- The 2016 vintage experienced the best of both worlds with a hot spring and early summer, but also a cool fall season.
- Cooler temperatures in August and September, slowed down ripening and resulted in longer hang time for the grapes and the longest harvest on record in Washington State (August 15-November 15).
- Overall, 2016 saw very favorable growing conditions, producing wines with ripeness and elegance.

### **VINEYARDS**

- Cooler sites of the Columbia Valley, including the Yakima Valley, produce the grapes for our Pinot Gris.
- The region's sunny days and cool nights allow for gradual flavor development of the fruit.
- Columbia Valley vineyards lie in the rain shadow of the Cascade Mountains and receive just 6-8 inches of rainfall annually.

### WINEMAKING

- Pinot Gris grapes were picked under cool nighttime skies to preserve the variety's bright, juicy style.
- A cool three-week fermentation in stainless steel tanks enhanced the floral and citrus characters.
- After fermentation, the wine was quickly prepared for bottling to preserve the freshness of this delicate varietal.



### **TECHNICAL DATA**

TA 0.61 g/100 ml

pH 3.29

Alcohol 13.5%

Blend 100% Pinot Gris

## **FOOD PAIRINGS**

Foods Shellfish, Cream-based

Dishes, Cheese & Fruit

Herbs Tarragon, Anise



