

2016 EROICA® GOLD RIESLING

Launched in 1999, Eroica is a labor of love for two of the world's great Riesling producers. One from the Old World, Dr. Loosen estate of Germany, and the other from the New World, Chateau Ste. Michelle of Washington state. An intermingling of Old and New World philosophies and techniques enables the crafting of extraordinary Rieslings from Washington state grapes. Named for Beethoven's Third Symphony, Eroica reflects not only its variety and site, but also its heritage: bold and forward from its Washington roots, elegant and refined from German inspiration.

TASTING NOTES

"Our Eroica Gold Riesling offers the best of both worlds, the bright natural acidity of our original Eroica with concentrated, ripe fruit flavors and a touch of sweetness. German winemakers have been making Riesling with Botrytis influence for generations. Eroica Gold combines the trademark Washington acidity with German botrytis influence. The wine offers lush orange marmalade flavors with a crisp finish."



Bob Bertheau, 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

- ~ Eroica begins in the vineyard with Ernst Loosen and Chateau Ste. Michelle winemaker Bob Bertheau collaborating on site selection, irrigation management, crop levels and canopy management.
- ~ They work with vineyard managers to adjust yields and manage fruit exposure to prolong the ripening season for added flavor development of these cooler climate vineyards.
- ~ Eroica Gold is sourced from our Horse Heaven Vineyard in the Horse Heaven Hills AVA.
- ~ The Horse Heaven Vineyard enjoys early-morning humidity and moderate daytime temperatures in which *Botrytis cinerea* thrives.

WINEMAKING

- ~ To protect flavor intensity, grapes were harvested at night when the vineyard temperatures were coldest.
- ~ Berries went direct to press, avoiding the possible loss of freshness caused by a crusher/destemmer.
- ~ A cool fermentation created a seamless integration of fruit, sugar and acid. Fruit-driven yeasts with slower fermentation rates were used to slow down fermentation and heighten fruit flavors.
- ~ Ernst Loosen and Bob Bertheau considered dozens of small lots, each reflecting a slight difference in character depending on where the grapes were grown, resulting in the complexity of the final blend.



TECHNICAL DATA

TA.....	0.79 g/100ML
PH.....	3.02
ALCOHOL.....	10.5%
RESIDUAL SUGAR.....	8.32 g/100ML
BLEND.....	100% RIESLING

FOOD PAIRINGS

FOODS: ASIAN DISHES, INDIAN CURRIES,
CRAB, SCALLOPS

Chateau Ste Michelle
&
DR. LOOSEN