

Pinot Gris Reserve 2013

Technical Information:

Appellation	VQA Creek Shores
Vineyard(s)	Market Vineyard
Grape Variety(ies)	100% Pinot Gris
Brix at Harvest	19.9
Alcohol Content	13.0%
Residual Sugar	4 grams – dry
Total Production	98 cases



TASTING NOTES

Amazingly complex and layered, our Reserve Pinot Gris 2013 shows notes of honeysuckle, citrus, pear and cream with a touch of mineral and spice. On the palate it is rich and supple, with a savoury and creamy mouthfeel, and a long finish with a touch of spice and oak.

Enjoy now lightly chilled with rich fish, seafood or poultry dishes or cellar for the short term to build additional complexity.

WINEMAKING NOTES

This Pinot Gris was sourced exclusively from our own Market Vineyard on Fourth Avenue in the Creek Shores sub-appellation. In 2013 we chose to harvest two blocks of the Market Vineyard at different times. The first, western block which had the greatest risk from humidity was picked first in mid-September and the eastern block was picked almost two weeks later. Hand-picked, the grapes were crushed and destemmed before spending a couple of hours on the skins to extract added complexity and aromatic intensity. The grapes were then pressed and fermented and aged in two 500L French oak barrels on their fourth use, previously used for Essence Arome. One was left on the lees from the Pinot Gris used in Essence Arome which added great complexity and structure to the final wine. In early 2016, the wine was taken out of barrel and bottled after light fining and filtration.

VINTAGE NOTES

2013 in Niagara provided average sunshine and precipitation. With rain falling quite regularly during the early fall, growers were forced to choose early picking to avoid damage from humidity and rot or gamble and hope the sun returned later in the autumn so the grapes would be dry, riper and sweeter. As it turned out, those hardy varieties that could tolerate damp conditions fared very well if they were allowed to hang later into October and November. The range of wines is excellent, but due diligence is required in order to select the truly great Niagara wines from the simple, average ones.