



2013 FEL PINOT GRIS, ANDERSON VALLEY

FEL Wines produces Pinot Noir, Chardonnay, and Pinot Gris grown in the Anderson Valley and on the Sonoma Coast. These cool climate regions are known for producing wines of bright acidity and considerable complexity. Crafted by Winemaker Ryan Hodgins, FEL bottlings consistently offer the elusive combination of concentration and elegance.

Vintage

While 2013 will be remembered in the history books as California's driest year on record to date, the heavy rains of December 2012 filled the ponds and recharged the soil allowing the 2013 vintage to proceed largely unaffected by the drought. Indeed, the 2013 growing season was nearly perfect and looks to rival the much heralded 2012 vintage. For the second consecutive year the vines set a bountiful crop that required intensive thinning to ensure even ripening and flavor development. The consistently warm summer led to an early start to harvest in vineyards around Boonville, but a cool second half of September resulted in a leisurely harvest that extended into mid-October.

Vineyards

This wine was made from a blend of fruit from three vineyards: Wiley Vineyard near the town of Navarro, and Filigreen and Donnelly Creek Vineyards, both located near the town of Boonville in Anderson Valley.

Winemaking

The fruit was harvested September 17 through October 11 at an average of 24.6° Brix, and whole cluster pressed to tank and settled for 24 hours. The final blend combines lots fermented in a 900 gallon French oak oval, small neutral French oak barrels, and stainless steel tanks.

Winemaker Notes

The aromatics of our 2013 FEL Pinot Gris are bright with aromas of Granny Smith apple, honeydew melon, and quince. Rich flavors of Bosch pear and Mandarin orange mingle with more subtle notes of lemon zest and wet rock. The palate is a delightful balance of refreshing acidity and rich texture from the barrel fermentation with flavors of green apple that linger on the finish.

Analysis

Alcohol:	14.2%
Residual Sugar:	0.4%
Production:	902 cases
Bottling Date:	March 6, 2014
Release Date:	May 1, 2014