



## 2015 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

In 2015, a mild winter and warm spring led to a second consecutive early harvest. While a cool May helped delay the growing season slightly, harvest began in August — a first for FEL. Happily, the weather in August and September was relatively mild, and we were able to pick all of our early sites before a few days of heat in mid-September, preserving the grapes' refreshing acidity. Yields were down considerably from the previous three vintages, and the resulting concentration of flavor is immediately apparent in the 2015 FEL wines.

### Vineyards

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

### Winemaking

The fruit was harvested August 24 through September 12 at an average of 23.8° Brix, then whole cluster pressed to tank and settled for 24 hours. The final blend is composed of lots fermented in a 900 gallon French oak oval tank (30%), small neutral French oak barrels with four months of *sur lie* aging (30%), and stainless steel tanks (40%).

### Winemaker Notes

Rich aromas of quince, Asian pear, and mandarin orange practically explode from the glass. The 2015 FEL Pinot Gris is not a shy wine; it is full of exuberant aromatics, intense flavors, and rich texture. In the mouth, flavors of pip fruit, honeydew melon, and quince mingle with subtle notes of honey and brioche — flavors derived from the *sur lie* aging. On the palate the wine is rich and oily, yet also delightfully refreshing.

### Analysis

Alcohol:	14.1%
Residual Sugar:	0.4%
Production:	1,322 cases
Bottling Date:	March 10, 2016
Release Date:	April 1, 2016