



2023 WHITE MOURVEDRE

TASTING NOTES

Our White Mourvedre will beguile you with intriguing aromas and flavors, ones that are familiar and at the same time somehow exotic. There's a creaminess to the nose that also brims with tart apple, melon and lemon blossom, and that creamy sensation continues into the mouth with an alluring richness. Flavors of honeydew, apricot and white peaches mingle, giving way to a clean, crisp finish that enhances the food-friendliness of this wine. Fruity/dry; medium plus acid.

WINEMAKER'S NOTES

White Mourvedre has been something of a revelation for us at Eleven – like a discovery of buried treasure. The same grapes that produce beautifully dark, soft, complex red wine can also make a white wine of unique and surpassing beauty. How do we do it? We harvest the grapes earlier than we do for the red wine, and then we make it the same way as our other whites, with juice pressed directly from whole clusters of grapes. In the parlance, this is known as a vin gris: a white wine made from dark-skinned grapes; Pinot Gris is another example, which, like our white Mourvedre, has a bit more color in it than most other white wines. As far as we can find, Eleven is the only winery anywhere producing a white Mourvedre.

Composition

100% Mourvedre

Appellation

Rattlesnake Hills, Yakima Valley

Harvest Date

September 11, 2023

Harvest specs

18.9 brix, pH 3.45, TA 6.0 g/l

Crush Pad

Whole cluster press

Yeast

Allegro AL-48

Fermentation

Tank fermented

Malolactic Fermentation

None

Aging

5 months in tanks

Oak

None

Fining/Filtration

Bentonite, cross flow filtration

Alcohol

13.7%

Production

318 cases

Bottled

February 6, 2024



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PAIRINGS

Veggie burgers, crab cakes, panko prawns, grilled white fish. Chicken with herbs: fried, baked, or grilled. Crunchy, zesty and light is the theme! Want more ideas? Pesto pizza. Zucchini boats. Roasted vegetables. For fun, try it with sea salt caramels, a bridal shower, relaxing after a round of golf, or just sitting by the campfire.

AWARDS

Silver, Washington State Wine Awards (90 pts)

VINTAGE DETAILS

The 2023 vintage got off to a late, cool start, but then raced ahead with warm temperatures, making up ground throughout the growing season and even tracking slightly ahead of average by mid-July. A brief heat spike in August caused issues in some varieties but didn't slow down the speeding train of ripening. Harvest started off with a fury, bringing home one variety after another, day after day. Yields were widely variable, and things were changing so quickly that yield forecasts sometimes turned out to be significantly higher or lower than expected when the grapes were harvested. This means that we got more of some varieties than expected, and less of others. The good news is that the quality was very good in nearly everything, so we are expecting some great wines from the vintage.

GRAPE VARIETY INFO

Mourvedre (also known as Monastrell) is probably originally from Spain, but is perhaps most famously grown in the southern Rhone valley in France. It has large berries and large clusters (contrary to what many online sources say, curiously), so is relatively juicy and not particularly concentrated by default; this is not an issue for this vin gris, which has no significant skin impact but instead takes advantage of the delicious flavors present in the juice.

FUN FACTS

Possibly the only white Mourvedre produced anywhere (we haven't found another); winemakers tend to focus on rosé with this variety, and some even insist that any non-red wine made from dark-skinned grapes is rosé (incorrect – “rosé” means “pink”, so if it's not pink, it's not rosé).



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