

2006 Pinot Noir Rosé



Viticultural Data:

Vine Age: 21 years
Yield: 3 tons/acre
Harvest Sugars: 24 Brix

Enological Data:

pH: 3.14
Bottled: March 2007
Cases Produced: 1,357

In keeping with Elk Cove Vineyards reputation for producing clean, crisp, aromatic white wines, we're pleased to again offer a Willamette Valley rosé. Produced entirely from Pinot Noir, Oregon's flagship varietal, this is our interpretation of a "pink" wine! Our Pinot Noir fruit is hand-harvested very ripe from 20+-year-old vines and gently whole bunch pressed with limited skin contact to give the wine an elegant rosé hue. It is then fermented cool in stainless steel tanks and finished dry.

Vintage 2006 certainly has everyone offering up grand descriptions! "Everything ripened beautifully." "This is a rarity." "A warm, fully ripe vintage." Fruit set was ideal with a mild Spring. Months that followed were warm and dry, with short-lived heat spikes and a few intermittent cooling rains in the fall, advancing fruit ripeness. Feelings abound in the valley that the 2006 vintage seems to be a combination of the 1999's depth and the ripeness of 2003 (the only vintage warmer than 2006), but with better flavors and natural balance. And white wines will shine! Many quoting 2006 as a stellar year with typical cool climate acidity to balance that richness.

The 2006 Elk Cove Vineyards Pinot Noir Rosé is what springtime is all about; clean, fragrant and showing freshness with sweet, red strawberry fruit! Enjoy this crisp, light, simply refreshing wine all by itself on a warm sunny day or pair it with succulent shellfish or roast chicken. Bon appétit!

Reviews

Epicurious.com ~ July 31, 2007

"Showcasing Oregon's star grape, Elk Cove's sultry, floral pink is the answer for cooling off during hot summer nights." – L.S.

The Sunday Oregonian ~ June 3, 2007

"But when a pinot noir rosé is successful, it's one of the most rewarding rosés you can drink. Elk Cove Vineyards in Gaston seems to have the knack. This 2006 rendition has just the right pale watermelon hue and delivers all of pinot noir's famed berryish goodness and delicacy, with unmistakable whiffs of strawberry and red cherry. This is a dry, refined pinot noir rosé, a benchmark bottling." – Matt Kramer