



Viticultural Data:

Vine Age: 36 years
Yield: 2.5 tons/acre
Harvest Sugars: 21.5 Brix

Enological Data:

pH: 3.01
Residual Sugar: 0.80%
Bottled: March 2012
Cases Produced: 800

2011 Riesling Estate

Riesling is alive and well in Oregon. And at Elk Cove Vineyards it remains an integral part of who we are. Elk Cove Vineyards has been producing luscious Rieslings since 1978. Our Rieslings are treated to the same meticulous vineyard maintenance and strict yield control as our incredible Pinot Noirs and Pinot Gris.



At the close of harvest 2011, many winegrowers breathed a sigh of relief. Feelings of déjà vu from 2010 were evident as the picking pushed even later into the season, making it one of Oregon's latest harvests on record. Yet, differences will mark them unique. Yields in 2011 were opposite of 2010, when production was down significantly due to poor fruit set and damage at harvest from migrating birds. This year, sunny weather brought good fruit-set and large compact clusters. The large crop had many growers thinning to one cluster per shoot. And the birds did not 'help' reduce yields as they did in 2010. Thus allowing normal yields compared to the dramatically reduced vintage in 2010. While the heat index shows a warmer vintage in 2011 than 2010, both were unusually cool compared to the long-term average. Most notable was when the heat came. This vintage brought the 'nice weather' late in the season allowing us to let the fruit hang 15 days longer for fantastic flavors and better pH and acid balance. Winemaker, Adam Campbell, comments on the lateness of the vintage, "a lot of whites came in the first part of November and due to the cold season I expected more herbal notes but surprisingly they came out of fermentation showing the classic stone fruit and tropical notes we expect." Reminding Oregon vintners, once again, those who held on patiently will be richly rewarded in the wines.

The 'Estate' designation is from our oldest block of Riesling planted on the gentle slopes of the winery property. This wine highlights the quality that old vine material can show from this noble grape in the Northern Willamette Valley. It shows a traditional bouquet of pear and apple overtones, with lean, mineral notes on the palate. A pretty wine now yet has enough fruit and balanced acidity to age a number of years with cool cellaring.