

2009 White Rose Wines Pinot Noir

The entry level 2009 Pinot Noir Willamette Valley is a six vineyard, multi-regional blend that was made with 20% whole clusters and aged for 11 months in 13% new French oak. Medium ruby red in color, it offers up an attractive perfume of spice box, red fruits, especially cherry, rose petal, and cedar. In the glass it opens to reveal a supple, savory, sweetly-fruited, concentrated wine that has excellent balance and a lengthy, pure finish. It is meant for drinking over the next 6-7 years.

White Rose Estate's proprietor, Greg Sanders, loves whole cluster Pinot Noir and his 2008s were brilliant successes. He informed me during our sit-down that beginning in 2011 all of the wines produced from the estate White Rose Vineyard will be made with 100% whole clusters. Regarding the 2009s, he says, "There are wines here that I like better than ...

- Jay Miller (October, 2011)

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2009 White Rose Wines Pinot Noir Winemaker's Cuvee

The 2009 Pinot Noir Winemaker's Cuvee is a 50-case barrel selection from the White Rose Block 1 and Bell Road Vineyards. It was fermented with 60% whole clusters (100% of the White Rose and 20% of the Bell Road) and aged for 15 months in 100% neutral French oak. It is slightly darker in color than the previous cuvees while offering up notes of truffle, chocolate, cherry, raspberry, and floral aromas. Firm on the palate and quite dense, it displays layered fruit, a slightly reticent personality, and good balance. It will benefit from 2-3 years of cellaring which is likely to fill out the wine's frame.

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2009 White Rose Wines Pinot Noir Appellation Series

The 2009 Pinot Noir Appellation Series Chehalem Mountain is a barrel selection from three vineyards in that AVA and was made with 25% whole clusters with aging in 14% new French oak for 15 months. Aromas of Asian spices, incense, smoke, clove, cherry, and raspberry inform the nose of a moderately structured, ripe, spicy wine that has the structure and balance to evolve for 1-2 years. It will deliver prime drinking from 2012 to 2019.

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2009 White Rose Wines Pinot Noir Appellation Series

The 2009 Pinot Noir Appellation Series Dundee Hills is a blend of the Durant and White Rose vineyards made with 40% whole clusters and aged for 15 months in 16% new French oak. Inviting aromas of cinnamon, clove, incense, cedar, cherry, and cranberry compose the bouquet of this already complex, finesse-styled, suave offering. Impeccably balanced and lengthy, it will benefit from 1-2 years of cellaring and provide enjoyment through 2021.

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**2009 White Rose Wines Pinot Noir White
Rose Estate**

The 2009 Pinot Noir White Rose Vineyard is a selection from the four oldest blocks in the vineyard planted in 1980 and was made with 60% whole clusters. The wine was aged for 15 months in 8% new French oak. Medium ruby red in color, it sports an enticing nose of exotic spices, incense, cedar, rose petal, cherry, and raspberry. In the glass it opens to reveal exceptional elegance, excellent concentration, and impeccable balance. It is likely to provide enjoyment for another 8-10 years.

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**2009 White Rose Wines Pinot Noir White
Rose Vineyard Guillen**

The one (relative) disappointment in the portfolio is the 2009 Pinot Noir White Rose Vineyard Guillen (named after the winemaker). It was sourced from a younger parcel, White Rose's Block 5, and made with 45% whole clusters. The lightest in color of all the wines, it is a pleasant offering but superficial, in need of greater depth, concentration, and length.

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**2009 White Rose Wines Pinot Noir White
Rose Vineyard Hand Select**

The 2009 Pinot Noir White Rose Vineyard Hand Select was harvested from specifically chosen vines based on taste in Blocks 1 & 2 and fermented with 80% whole clusters. The wine was aged for 15 months in 100% neutral French oak. A complex aromatic array of earthy minerals, chocolate, cinnamon, clove, incense, and assorted red fruits leads to a mouth-filling, dense, rich, exceptionally lengthy Pinot that will provide hedonistic pleasure through 2021+.

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**2009 White Rose Wines Pinot Noir White
Rose Vineyard Whole Cluster**

The 2009 Pinot Noir White Rose Vineyard Whole Cluster was made from the Vineyard's Block 1 (planted in 1980) using 100% whole clusters. It was aged for 15 months in 100% neutral French oak. It offers up a sexy, bordering on kinky, perfume of exotic spices, incense, floral notes, and assorted red fruits that jump from the glass. On the palate it deftly marries power and elegance in a complex wine that lasts for over 60-seconds in its pure finish. It is one of the wine's of the vintage. Old vines, low yields (in the range of 1.5 to 1.75 tons per acre), and a willingness to stretch the envelope have made White Rose Estate one of the premier producers of American Pinot Noir.

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