2013 Clos de Gilroy

For a long time I went to bed aïoli, clovèd in nothing but the barest essential oils. The Wine Formerly Known as Clos de Gilroy (TWFKaCdG) pays homage to the quaint, rustic town of Gilroy, the spiritual locus of all matters alliaceous. However, note well, the fruit for this wine does not, despite its name, derive from Gilroy (*clos*, but no Cigare), but instead from the Alta Loma vineyard in Greenfield (a particularly cool site for grenache) the gravelly Alamo Creek Vineyard near Santa Maria and some truly ancient mourvèdre vines in the sleepy Sacramento Delta town of Oakley, CA. Grenache is really the star of the show, and the wine exhibits all the hallmarks of exceptional coolth—bright raspberries, red fruit, a strong suggestion of white pepper, and a supple, lingering finish.

TASTING NOTES

We aim for weapons-grade fruit from our sundry Grenache vineyards, with the intent of producing killer Cigare, but sometimes we end up Clos (but no Cigare). Very pretty opalescent ruby color. Exceptional spicebox nose: black pepper with hints of clove/gingerbread, bing cherry, red currant and Santa Rosa plum. Very soft, plush tannins in the mouth; this is the genius of Grenache. Refreshing, savory¹ texture, making this a wine that pairs exceptionally well with a range of dishes, not the least being a peppered ahi tuna steak. Best served with a slight chill, especially as the weather warms up.

VINEYARD | PRODUCTION NOTES

Bonny Doon Vineyard's winemaking practice is exceptionally light-handed, with minimal intervention and manipulation. We created the 2013 Clos de Gilroy from hand-harvested grapes deriving from four Central Coast Vineyards. The fruit was hand-sorted, gently de-stemmed, and cold soaked to enhance flavor and color extraction, and each lot was fermented separately. Extended maceration and fermentation took place under slow, cool conditions, and the lots were carefully blended to ensure a harmonious balance in the resultant wine.

The Wine Formerly Known as ...

VITAL STATISTICS

Varietal Blend: 75% grenache, 17% syrah, 8% mourvèdre Vineyards: 61% Alta Loma, 18% Ventana, 13% Alamo Creek, 8% Del Barba Appellation: Central Coast Alcohol by Volume: 14% TA: 7.2 g/L pH: 3.56 Production: 3,400 cases Serving Temperature: 53-55° F Optimal drinkability: Drink now-2019

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Region





WINEMAKER Randall Grahm







¹ This is a recurring them chez Doon. We zealously guard the yeast lees in our wines, making sure that they become well incorporated, adding invaluable texture and length to the wine.