



Pinot Grigio

Synonym: Pinot Gris, Petit gris, Auvernet, Auxois, Auxerrois Gris, Beurot, Burot, Fauret, Fromentot, Gris Cordelier, Lacrant, Malvoisie, Muscade, Pinot cendré, Tokay d'Alsace (France); Borgogna grigio, Ruländer, Stahler (Italy); Burgunder roter, Drusent, Grau Clevnet, Grauer Burgunder, Rother Clewner, Ruländer, Tokay, Tokayer, Wiliboner (Germany and Switzerland); Szurkebarat (Hungary).

Commonly mistaken for: none.

Origin: It had its origins in France (Burgundy) originating from an unstable mutation of Pinot Noir. Known under many and varied names to begin with it was already famous by 1300 for the aromatic characteristics of its berry. This 'grey' mutation of Pinot also appeared in Germany in the Baden and Pfalz areas in 18th Century. At the beginning of the 1800's it was introduced to Italy from France, first in the regions close to Switzerland but eventually it became very common in the Trentino Alto Adige region. It is also cultivated generally in the north-east of Italy in the Friuli

region.

Agronomic and environmental aspects: It has a preference for hilly places, with a good percentage of clay it also grows well in foothill regions, but the soil must be friable. The vine is suitable for a variety of training systems and pruning techniques. In Italy and France vertical shoot positioned (VSP) systems are used, such as Guyot (long cane pruning) or spur pruning. The most important thing is to maintain the vines in good balance using shoot thinning as a technique to improve the quality of the final product.

Diseases, pests and disorders: Very susceptible to botrytis, sour bunch rot, phomopsis cane and leaf spot; susceptible to downy mildew and powdery mildew. It's almost resistant to Esca. The vines can also show iron chlorosis. Good resistance to extreme weather conditions (drought and strong wind), but it is particularly sensitive to frost.

Description:

Growing Tip:

Leaf:

full open, cottony, of yellowish green colour.

small size of blade, cordate shape, 3-lobed. Has a V-shaped petiolar sinus, lateral superior sinuses are V-shaped, while the inferior (if there are any) are like an open V. The profile is revolute with a medium blistering of blade in the upper surface. In the mature leaf the petiole sinus is not limited by veins (as happens in Chardonnay leaves).

Bunch:

Berry:

small, of cylindrical form, with one wing, medium-high density of berries.

of medium-small dimensions, elliptic; skin of violet yellow colour, medium thick covered by good quantity of bloom.

Vegetation growth habit:

Vigour:

Average bunch weight:

Average bunches per shoot:

erect

low

small-medium (60-180 g.)

1 or 2

Growth Stages:

Time of budburst:

Time of flowering:

Time of veraison:

Time of harvest:

early-medium

medium

medium

early-medium

Wine characteristics:

Pinot Grigio/Pinot Gris wines can be diverse and are produced in many of the world's wine growing countries nowadays. The most highly regarded wines tend to be rich, ripe and concentrated with heady aromatics although they are generally lower in acidity so can feel a bit soapy or broad. The most widely consumed are usually labelled Pinot Grigio and made in a crisp, neutral and pale style which is designed for easy drinking. There are of course always exceptions to these generalisations and Italy make some amazing complex yet fresh Grigio wines in the north east. A hugely popular drink worldwide.

The Australian Experience:

When Chalmers imported this clone Pinot Grigio was at the start of a steep popularity curve which hasn't slowed down. Vines from this clone have been planted widely across Australia and are being used in all levels of wine production from high volume, every-day drops to serious, special occasion wines. In our experience it's a superior clone in terms of quality to the D1V7 clone which is most widely used in Australia because the D1V7 is quite a bit higher yielding which can lead to dilute wines. This high yield in combination with much more compact bunches also increases disease risk on an already sensitive variety.

Available Clone:**Pinot Grigio VCR 5**

- selected in Friuli region (between the rivers Cellina and Tagliamento)
- very low vigour, lower vigour and yield than D1V7 the other popular clone in Australia
- low fertility per shoot, but with consistent yield
- bunch is small, of cylindrical form, medium density of berries and with a short wing
- good resistance to botrytis and more tolerant to iron chlorosis, so for this reason it can be cultivated in calcareous soils.

Maturity Data: Chalmers Merbein Vineyard

	19/1/17	3/2/17	6/2/17	24/2/17		
Pinot Grigio VCR 5						
Baume	8.9	11.6	12.3	14.2		
pH	3.25	3.45	3.54	3.77		
TA	9.8	6.3	6.0	5.0		