

Bonny Doon

A tribute to the Languedoc-inspired “vin gris” style, this rosé blends Rhône varietals with coastal elegance and refreshing poise.

BONNY DOON VINEYARD

Vin Gris Rosé 2021

California, USA



Region and Vineyards

Bonny Doon Vineyard is based in California’s Central Coast, a region benefiting from maritime influences, diurnal temperature variation, and a diversity of soil types ideal for Rhône grape varieties. The **Santa Cruz Mountains** and surrounding coastal zones where Bonny Doon sources fruit offer both the cooling Pacific breezes and long hang times that preserve acidity in rosé production.

The grapes for this Vin Gris are primarily sourced from **cooler vineyard sites** in Monterey County, known for their fog-laden mornings and slow ripening. The choice of location emphasizes freshness, subtlety, and aromatic complexity—hallmarks of Randall Grahm’s viticultural philosophy.

Winemaking

The Bonny Doon Vin Gris Rosé is a blend of **Grenache (38%)**, **Grenache Blanc (22%)**, **Mourvèdre (17%)**, **Cinsault (9%)**, **Carignan (6%)**, and **other Rhône varieties** including Vermentino and Clairette Blanche. These varietals are carefully selected and pressed **direct-to-press**, ensuring a very pale, salmon hue with minimal skin contact.

The wine is fermented in stainless steel at **low temperatures** to preserve primary fruit aromas and freshness. Lees contact for several months lends additional textural complexity and depth. The result is a rosé modeled after classic southern French “vin gris,” yet with a distinctly Californian voice.

Tasting Notes

- **Color:** Pale salmon with silver reflections, brilliantly limpid.
- **Aroma:** Delicate aromas of **wild strawberries**, **pink grapefruit**, **rose petals**, and hints of **herbes de Provence**, lifted by a whisper of sea breeze minerality.
- **Palate:** Light-bodied and crisp, with flavors of **red currant**, **white peach**, and **citrus zest**. A chalky texture underpins its bright acidity, leading to a clean, saline finish.

Alcohol :13,50 %

Composition: 38% Grenache, 22% Grenache Blanc, 17% Mourvèdre, 9% Cinsault

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Did you know?

Bonny Doon Vineyard, founded by **Randall Grahm**, was an early champion of Rhône varietals in California. Grahm famously dubbed himself the "Rhône Ranger," a nod to his trailblazing commitment to Rhône grapes at a time when California was dominated by Cabernet and Chardonnay.

Wine Pairing Ideas

- **Niçoise salad:** Complements the wine's saline and herbal notes while matching its light body and acidity.
- **Grilled shrimp with citrus glaze:** Enhances the wine's bright fruit and mineral backbone.
- **Provençal vegetable tart:** Harmonizes with the rosé's Mediterranean herbaceous character.
- **Goat cheese and fig crostini:** The acidity of the wine cuts through the creaminess and balances the sweetness of the fig.

90 WINEENTHUSIAST

Wine Enthusiast (WE) : 90 Points (2021)

*Crisp aromas of melon, peach and rose petal are doused in an engaging tinge of fresh lime on the nose of this bottling. The palate is very approachable with ripe peach and melon flavors that aren't shy. *Top 100 Best Buy of 2022* (MK)*

92 WINEENTHUSIAST

Wine Enthusiast (WE) : 92 Points (2020)

*Joyous aromas of strawberry are splashed with lemon juice and pink rose petals on the nose of this bottling. The palate tightens up a bit, providing melon, tangerine-cream and wet gravel flavors atop a chalky texture. *Best Buy* (MK)*

90 vinous

Vinous (Antonio Galloni) (VN) : 90 Points (2020)

Light, shimmering orange. Fresh red berry and citrus fruit aromas are complemented by suggestions of candied rose and pungent herbs. Silky and open-knit, showing good depth to the raspberry, cherry and bitter orange pith flavors. Tightens up slowly on a long, spice-inflected finish that leaves a gently sweet red fruit note behind. Drinking window: 2021 - 2023