

# I BRAND & FAMILY PINOT GRIS, EDEN RIFT VINEYARD, CIENEGA VALLEY, SAN BENITO



100% Pinot Gris from the oldest, continually producing commercial vineyard in California. A fresh, delicious and fragrant 'orange wine' full of depth and character. Skin contact adds lots of texture and intrigue. Aromas of strawberry and rose petals; flavors of raspberry and watermelon. Fresh tannins, balanced sweet and tart and a refreshing finish.

Eden Rift is part of the original Theophile Vachè property first planted in the early 1850s. The 2.6 acres of Pinot Gris are on terraces in the northwestern corner of the vineyard, where they are met with the high winds from the Monterey Bay. The northernmost of the three grape growing side valleys of the Cienega Valley, and the coolest. Granitic and calcareous soil bases. Planted in 1996, these mature grape vines struggle in depleted granitic soils and bear the brunt of the wind that comes through the notch from the San Juan Valley. Destemmed to picking bins for five days on skins, pressed and fermented with spontaneous yeasts in neutral oak casks. Full malo, aged on lees for 7 months. Bottled unfiltered.

Ian Brand puts a lot of miles on his car exploring & discovering great vineyards at the edge of sensible farming in Central California. He finds the remote, challenging vineyards, that are capable of producing only the most idiosyncratic wines, with hard depleted soils & intense sunlight tempered only by the coastal breeze. His goal is to lightly polish the roughest edges & leave the idiosyncrasy intact. It is there in the back country of Monterey & San Benito county that Ian's wines come to life. The I. Brand & Family wines are small lot, single-vineyard selections that Ian wishes to showcase. "We are not in "wine country" nor do we have trophy wineries. This is farm land, desolate hills & solitude. What we do is simple, without artifice & we enjoy it."

AN EASTERLY WINE SELECTION • BELFAST, ME

## Tasting Note:

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PINOT GRIS, EDEN RIFT  
VINEYARD, CIENEGA VALLEY,  
SAN BENITO

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## Shelf Talker:

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EDEN RIFT VINEYARD  
PINOT GRIS



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