

## 2007 Pinot Noir Five Mountain



Five Mountain Vineyard was purchased by Elk Cove Vineyards in 2005 after leasing the site for several years. Previously only a component of our Willamette Valley blend, after taking full control of the vineyard we have found certain lots worthy of Single Vineyard status. This historic vineyard was planted in 1978 by the Ponzi family, the original 4.2 acres of old vines are comprised of Pommard clone and the entire vineyard is set on a steep southeast slope in the Chehalem Mountains AVA, overlooking “five mountains” in the Cascade Range most widely seen from the Willamette Valley. This vineyard was an important element to the early Ponzi Reserve Pinots and has also been a Single Vineyard selection from a number of premier Oregon wineries over the years. This site is sustainably farmed by Elk Cove Vineyards and now comprises a total of 30 acres including the original old vine Pinot Noir, Dijon Pinot Noir, Pinot Gris, Pinot Blanc, Riesling, Gewurztraminer and Muscat. We are excited to include this Vineyard in our family of Single Vineyard wines!

Vintage 2007 is one that will certainly be discussed. Some say it's a grower's year, where meticulous thinning, canopy management and spray routines helped the fruit left hanging on the vine. Others maintain this is a winemaker's year, where the most experienced and agile artists will be able to take the fruit given by Mother Nature and craft some outstanding wines. All agree that it brought some challenges, yet with the rain reminiscent of 2005 and much less than the last really rainy harvest of 1997, most in the valley know how to adapt; taking advantage of this year's attributes such as lower sugars (lower alcohols) and higher acids. We love the classic cool Oregon climate in this year, which should give us more finesse rather than extraction and possibly even better ageability. This vintage will have stellar wines, just perhaps with more variability.

### Reviews

**92 Pts.** ~ *KensWineGuide.com* ~ May 2009

*“This dark Ruby offering from Elk Cove was the clear winner of blind tasting pinots. This wine opens with a smoky cherry bouquet with notes of tobacco. On the palate, this wine is medium bodied, very nicely balanced, and velvety. This sophisticated wine is very food friendly and would pair well with salmon, squab, or osso buco...”*

### Viticultural Data:

Vine Age: 29 years  
Yield: 2.5tons/acre  
Harvest Sugars: 22.1Brix

### Enological Data:

pH: 3.74  
Bottled: August 2008  
6 Bottle Cases  
Produced: 306