

## 2008 Pinot Noir Mount Richmond



### Viticultural Data:

Vine Age: 12 years  
Yield: 1.8 tons/acre  
Harvest Sugars: 23.5 Brix

### Enological Data:

pH: 3.68  
Bottled: August 2009  
12 Bottle Cases  
Produced: 894

This vineyard site was purchased in 1996 in partnership between Adam and his wife Carrie, and parents Pat and Joe Campbell. The motivation for planting this vineyard was to emulate the wine quality from sites such as our esteemed Roosevelt vineyard. This site now holds the honor as the largest vineyard holding of ECV totaling 105 acres. Mount Richmond sits at 300-500 feet elevation, lower than the vineyards planted at the winery, which allows for earlier ripening. Planted in a high-density format (2100 vpa), similar to Roosevelt, it sits in rolling hills just outside the town of Yamhill in the shadow of the Pacific Northwest's Coast Range. The plant material sourced in 2008 for Mount Richmond now includes some of our younger vines [8 years old] planted on this site. In addition to the Old Vine Pommard selection, planted from select cuttings off of Roosevelt Vineyard, the blend now also includes equal parts of Dijon clone 115 and 777. This vineyard sits on Willakenzie soils and is in the heart of the Yamhill-Carlton AVA.

There is a quiet kind of excitement in the Willamette Valley after harvest 2008. Phrases and clichés keep rolling on such as classic cool climate, vintage conditions that are only dreamt of, potential to show the best of what Oregon has to offer. Add to this, repeated references to perhaps one of Oregon's best vintages, 1999 and understandably many in the valley are smiling. Oregon's 2008 growing season started late, with bud break on average ten days to two weeks behind schedule and followed with a relatively cool growing season. Thoughts of the recent wet and cool harvest of 2007 had many aggressively thin vineyards to concentrate fruit and speed up ripening and ward off disease pressure. Yet as in 1999, a beautiful Oregon autumn saved the day! Fall was spectacular with sunny days and cold nights, producing the tiny berries and small clusters not seen since the 1994 and 1998 vintages, laying the foundation to produce extraordinary wines.

### Reviews

**90 Pts.** ~ *Robert Parker's Wine Advocate* ~ October 2010

*It displays earth notes, underbrush, cinnamon, clove, rose petal, black cherry, and black raspberry aromas leading to a medium-bodied, sweetly-fruited, succulent wine with excellent balance, good volume, and a lengthy finish. It will be at its best from 2012 to 2020. Elk Cove Vineyards' 2008 collection is first rate.* – J.M.

**94 Pts.** ~ *Wine Spectator Insider* ~ May 19th 2010

*"Smooth and silky, delivering a root beer-like sassafras and anise character weaving through the blackberry, cherry and spice flavors with transparency and vibrancy. Picks up some cream and tobacco as the finish lingers. Best from 2012 through 2018."* – H.S.

**90 Pts.** ~ *Tanzer International Wine Cellar* ~ July/August 2010

*"Bright red. Sexy aromas of red berries and fresh flowers, with a subtle herbal quality emerging with aeration. A juicy, sweet midweight that offers lively red and dark berry flavors and slow-building cola and spice notes. Pretty suave right now; this would be great with an Asian duck dish."* – J.R.

**90 Pts.** ~ *Wine Enthusiast* ~ April, 2010

*"Forward and fruity, this is an easy-drinking bottle of pinot...gains both mass and complexity with some streaks of licorice and vanilla, laced with edgy herbs and tannins..."* – P.G.