

## 2008 Riesling Estate



Riesling is alive and well in Oregon. And at Elk Cove Vineyards it remains an integral part of who we are. Elk Cove Vineyards has been producing luscious Rieslings since 1978. Our Rieslings are treated to the same meticulous vineyard maintenance and strict yield control as our incredible Pinot Noirs and Pinot Gris.

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 laying the foundation to produce extraordinary wines.

The 'Estate' designation is from our oldest block of Riesling planted on the gentle slopes of the winery property. This wine highlights the quality that old vine material can show from this noble grape in the Northern Willamette Valley. It shows a traditional bouquet of pear and apple overtones, with lean, mineral notes on the palate. A pretty wine now yet has enough fruit and balanced acidity to age a number of years with cool cellaring.

### Viticultural Data:

Vine Age: 33 years  
Yield: 3 tons/acre  
Harvest Sugars: 22.9 Brix

### Enological Data:

pH: 3.04  
Residual Sugar: 1.83%  
Bottled: February 2009  
Cases Produced: 309