

2006 Pinot Noir Mount Richmond



Viticultural Data:

Vine Age: 10 years
Yield: 1.8 tons/acre
Harvest Sugars: 24.9 Brix

Enological Data:

pH: 3.65
Bottled: September 2007
6 Bottle Cases
Produced: 980

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. 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 for Mount Richmond follows an old Burgundian tradition of selecting cuttings from the best plants (small clusters, tiny berries) from Roosevelt vineyard. It is the 4th generation of improved plant material (ECV Estate>La Boheme>Roosevelt> Mount Richmond), and all Pommard clone. This vineyard is completely dry-farmed and sits on Willakenzie soils.

Vintage 2006 certainly has everyone offering up grand descriptions! "Everything ripened beautifully." "This is a rarity." "A warm, fully ripe vintage." Fruit set was ideal with a mild Spring. Months that followed were warm and dry, with short-lived heat spikes and a few intermittent cooling rains in the fall, advancing fruit ripeness. Feelings abound in the valley that the 2006 vintage seems to be a combination of the 1999's depth and the ripeness of 2003 (the only vintage warmer than 2006), but with better flavors and natural balance. The Pinot Noirs specifically seem to be very true to form with velvety tannins and a sexiness evocative of Pinot's feminine side. Put this with softer, darker blue fruits that are more generous and it's the makings of exceptional wines! In general, this vintage had us searching for negatives, finding only the six days of over 86 degrees in early harvest to fret over. But the results seem to be close to perfect!

Reviews

93 Pts. ~ *Wine Spectator* ~ April 23, 2008

"Supple, round and generous. A luscious mouthful of cherry, blackberry, cream and espresso flavors linger seductively on the long, expressive finish. Harmonious and deftly balanced, this is a big wine that wears its flesh easily. Drink now through 2016."

Recommended! ~ *Wine Press Northwest* ~ Spring 2008

"This wine reveals aromas of strawberries, ripe cherries and black pepper, along with intense and spicy cherries and loganberries."

94 Pts. ~ *Pinot Report* ~ Feb. 15, 2008

"...deep, rich, black cherry flavors with silky texture, some earthiness and tannin;...Great structure and a deep core of fruit make this a great Pinot for the table."