

2005 Precious Mountain Vineyard Pinot Noir

WINEMAKER COMMENTS

A very complex wine with aromas of wild raspberry, cherry, rose water, cardamom, sassafras and toasted vanilla bean. In your mouth the wild berry flavors burst out with a nice balance of acidity, complemented by the rich tannins and long tender finish. A well built wine of complexity that will only improve with additional cellaring.

—Winemaker Bob Cabral

THE VINEYARD

Precious Mountain located in the Sonoma Coast appellation, sits atop the second mountain ridge in from the Pacific Coast, near Fort Ross. This is a very small vineyard planted on steep slopes at an altitude of 1,750 feet. At this altitude coastal breezes, not fog, are responsible for Precious Mountain's cool evenings and moderate daytime temperatures. The vineyard is dry farmed to produce intense flavors.

HARVEST 2005

Following a labor-intensive growing season due to early spring rains, a cool summer and mild fall weather extended the ripening season in 2005. This long, slow maturation period permitted flavors and color to develop to high levels, and the absence of weather threats or temperature extremes allowed fruit to be picked at optimum ripeness. Vineyards unaffected by bloom failure, particularly Pinot noir and Chardonnay in Russian River Valley, enjoyed a bountiful crop. The fruit quality was extremely high, contributing to balanced and elegant wines with concentrated flavors and intense color.

TECHNICAL NOTES

Barrel Description: 75% new, 25% 1 year old

Barrel Aged: 15 months

pH: 3.71

TA: 0.55g/100ml Alc: 14.3%

Released Fall 2007

\$85

