



## 2007 Grenache Red Mountain

Composition:	87% Grenache 4% Mourvèdre, 3% Cinsault 3% Syrah, 3% Counoise
Vineyards:	Ciel du Cheval, Red Mountain Boushey Vineyards, Yakima
Alcohol:	14.8%
pH:	3.85
Titrateable Acid:	5.0 grams/litre
Bottling:	August 13, 2008 144 cases

### WINEMAKER'S NOTES

In 2007 the weather during bloom and fruit set was good with a warm May and June. Summer had fairly average temperatures with several heat spikes which temporarily slowed ripening. An unusually cool fall resulted in gradual ripening as the grapes took some time to develop flavors. In all, 2007 produced very good fruit purity with slightly lower pH's and soft acids following malolactic fermentation. The red wines display good color and flavor depth while the whites are somewhat restrained and elegant.

We produced several vintages of Grenache in the early nineties, and a blend with Syrah called "Tierra del Sol." The vines used for those early bottlings were unfortunately lost in the big freeze of 1996. We have now replanted at several sites that are more winter-resistant, allowing us to return Grenache to our lineup. Our primary use of these grapes is in our southern-Rhône blend ("Sirocco"). But we enjoy the strawberry-and-spice of Grenache so much that we bottled some varietally, with one mixed barrel that added interest and richness. This wine demonstrates the excellent potential of Grenache in Washington when correctly located; it is easily a match for the great Garnachas of Spain and the old vine examples from Phyloxera-free Australia. It is drinking beautifully now, and from our experience it will reward your patience in the cellar for at least fifteen years.

A pioneer of Rhône varieties in Washington State, winemaker Doug McCrea transforms grapes from the finest Yakima Valley, Red Mountain and Columbia Valley vineyards into wines of extraordinary depth, balance, complexity and finesse. Annual Production: 3500 cases of Syrah, Viognier, Grenache, Mourvèdre, Roussanne and Counoise.

**91 pts., Wine Enthusiast** "Small amounts of Mourvèdre, Syrah, Counoise and Cinsault add complexity to this excellent Grenache, grown at the Ciel du Cheval vineyard on Red Mountain. Supple and aromatic, it expresses itself with ripe, sweet strawberry and black cherry fruit, whiffs of pepper and pencil lead, and a full-bodied midpalate that continues cleanly through a lingering finish."

Washington State's Premier Rhône Varietal Winery

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