



SOTER VINEYARDS

2005 "BEACON HILL" PINOT NOIR
YAMHILL-CARLTON DISTRICT
WILLAMETTE VALLEY, OREGON

RELEASED: May 1, 2007

PRODUCTION: 1700 cases

HARVEST DATE: Sept. 25 – 30, 2005

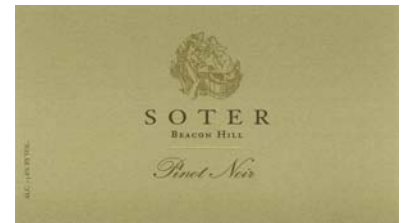
YIELD: 2 tons per acre

VARIETY: 100% Pinot Noir

SUGGESTED RETAIL: \$48.00

THE VINEYARD

Beacon Hill Pinot Noir is back. Uncompromising as ever, Tony Soter elected not to bottle a 2004 Beacon Hill Pinot Noir, instead declassifying the best barrels to the 2004 North Valley bottling. Therefore it is with great pleasure that we now offer you the 2005 Beacon Hill Pinot Noir.



Beacon Hill Vineyard consists of about 50% own-rooted Pommard and Wadenswil clones planted in 1988, and the remainder is comprised of more recent Dijon selections planted in 1998, 1999, and 2004. The Soter family sold Beacon Hill in 2005, and purchased nearly all of the fruit in the 2005 and 2006 vintages.

THE HARVEST

2005 will forever be defined by the careful preparation of the viticulturalist and the picking decisions made by the winemaker. Because of our low yields and Soter's meticulous crop-thinning, the grapes were packed with flavor and ready to pick in advance of the rains. At Soter Vineyards we made the decision to pick 100% of our grapes before any rain fell in our valley. It proved to be a propitious choice.

All of these grapes were farmed without pesticides or residual herbicides, and were **certified as sustainable** by Oregon's L.I.V.E. program.

WINEMAKING

The grapes were vinified in small, open-top fermenters using classic Burgundian techniques. The wine was aged 15 months in 60% new French oak barrels and 40% neutral French oak barrels, all from Burgundian coopers. We racked the wine only once, directly from the barrel into the bottling tank. Bottled in February 2007.

TASTING NOTE

More expressive and open than the 2002 and 2003 at this stage, 2005 Beacon Hill offers up roasted almonds, cranberries, black and blue fruits, a hint of black truffle, and a fine tannic spine that portends a long arc of pleasure in the cellar. Suggestions of cedar oil and spice cake fan out on a finish of mounting complexity - a pure and age-worthy expression of Beacon Hill that is unmistakably Oregon, with a poise that is undeniably Soter. This wine illustrates what Tony does best: making powerful, nuanced wine at a modest alcohol level. (13.7%).
