



## PILLOW ROAD VINEYARD

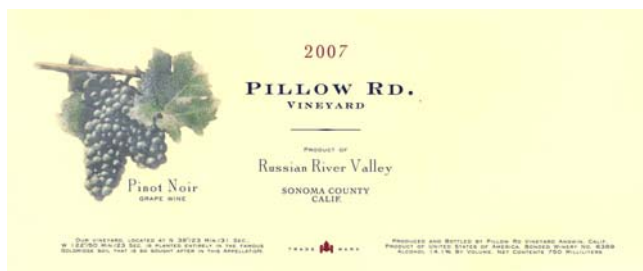
**Wine:** 2007 Pillow Rd Pinot Noir

**Blend:** 100% Pinot Noir, 100% Russian River Valley

**Vineyard Notes:** The Pillow Road vineyard is located in the Russian River Valley of West Sonoma County southwest of the city of Sebastopol in an area affectionately known as the Sebastopol Hills. Previously identified with Gravenstein apple orchards and counter culture lifestyles, it is now becoming known for outstanding Pinot Noir and high end Pinot Noir vintners. The original orchardists in this area knew to look for the Goldridge soil for planting their apple trees. Goldridge soils are sandy loam soils, with an emphasis on the sand. The sandy component allows the soil to drain quickly during a wet spring. The loam component holds on to a marginal amount of water for supplying the vines throughout the growing season, without either over invigorating or stressing the vines. The climate in this area of West County is one of cool temperatures with fog in the morning, clearing by mid day and returning in late afternoon. All ideal conditions for growing premium Pinot Noir.

The vineyard was planted in 2000 to Pinot Noir clones 777, 115 and 4 on rootstock 101-14. Clone 777 provides aromatics and bright fruit tones; clone 115 gives the wine depth and structure; clone 4 finishes the wine with complexity and balance.

**Cellar Notes:** The 2007 Pinot Noir was fermented in many small (1 to 2 ton) lots in open top tanks. The grapes were destemmed into open top tanks via gravity, after hand sorting. The must was punched down as much as 6-7 times per day. All wines were fermented with natural yeasts for about 7 days, after a 5 day cold soak. After pressing at dryness, the wine was put in barrels by gravity for an 11 month barrel aging in Burgundian French oak barrels (34% new and 66% one and two years old).



**Winemaker Notes:** The wine was made with the idea of simplicity and finesse in mind. We wanted this wine to express the fruit from the vineyard with as little manipulation as possible. The style of this Pinot Noir is just that; pure elegance. The 2007 Pillow Road Pinot Noir has fresh aromas of strawberry, raspberry and quince. The entry is soft and rich yet lively. The mid palate shows silky tannins and true but gentle flavors. A balanced acidity leads to a long and satisfying finish that is clean, complex and varetally true. 974 cases were bottled for sale on August 11, 2008.

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8170 Pillow Road • Sebastopol • CA • 95472 • 707-302-2070