

2007 Steep Creek Ranch 50 cases

Tasting Notes

Intoxicating spices, violets and gorgeous perfume tempt your nose. Ripe raspberry, fresh cracked pepper and cocoa mingle in the bright, dense, ruby color. Cool, refreshing flavors of red plum and black currant soothe your pallet. It is rich, yet exquisitely balanced, concentrated without being over-ripe and elegant to the core.

Harvest Notes

Vineyard: Steep Creek Ranch
Appellation: Columbia Gorge
Year Planted: 2001
Harvest Dates: late October
Varietals: 61% Syrah / 34% Grenache / 5% Mourvedre

Vineyard

Steep Creek Ranch is our home vineyard. It is the block you see if you have visited the winery in Lyle. We tend these vines with great love and care. The vineyard, as well as all of our property is managed with Biodynamic techniques and philosophy. This first acre at Steep Creek was an experimental block planted by the owners of Elk Cove winery in 2001. We purchased the property from them at the end of 2003. Beginning in 2010, we will plant our upper hillside to more Rhone varietals. Steep Creek, as a bottled embodiment of our passion for great wines is only the beginning of what we would like to showcase from our future estate plantings.

Vinification

The fruit is hand harvested by James and Poppie in the early morning. It is then gently de-stemmed, but not crushed into fermenters with 10-30% whole clusters added. A cold soak for 2-5 days is followed by a native yeast fermentation in open top fermenters. Pressed at dryness and barreled on heavy lees in French oak barrels (none new). Bottled in 16 months.

