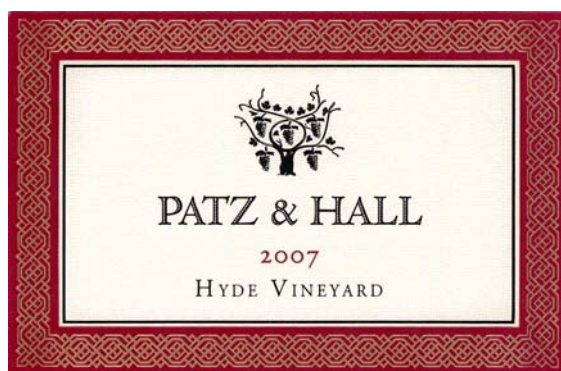




PATZ & HALL

Snooth



The Secret to Patz & Hall's Success: How one California winery found their way

“In California’s hyper-competitive wine world, it pays to have an advantage. Some producers try and spread their weight around by offering every wine under the sun. Others focus on doing a few things and doing them well. Patz & Hall has chosen the latter route, and this group of four friends has found that crafting distinctive Chardonnay and, perhaps more importantly, Pinot Noir gives them that distinct advantage that one needs to succeed.

Patz & Hall really are able to capture something special in their wines and unlike many single-vineyard bottlers, each vineyard designated wine has a unique character that speaks as much about the winemaker as it does about the soils from which it sprung. These are certainly wines worth looking for, made in a style that seems to be a middle ground toward which many of the finest producers have gravitated over the past decade: Richly-fruited and noticeably oaked, yet with balanced complexity and depth.

Continue reading for my favorites from Patz & Hall's killer line-up.”

2007 Hyde Vineyard Carneros Pinot Noir

“Darker, earthier, and decidedly cola-scented on the nose with dark cherry fruit and bittersweet chocolate shavings. On the palate this is surprisingly light and exceptionally well-balanced with bright yet integrated acidity and some lovely soft tannins really supporting the fruit. While much of the fruit mimics the dark nature of the aromas, this wine exhibits refreshing herbal notes, and a fresh, woody inner-mouth perfume. This is a big wine, perhaps too big for some, but with compelling freshness. The finish gains nice spicy tones from the wood and ends with crisp little tannins. Very nicely done.”

92 Points

- Gregory Dal Piaz
April 13, 2010