

# SEVEN HILLS

## *Ciel du Cheval Vineyard*

RED MOUNTAIN

*Vintage Red Wine*

2008



ALCOHOL 14.5% BY VOLUME

## **Ciel du Cheval** **2008/Red Mountain**

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**Vineyards:** Ciel du Cheval 100%

**Grapes:** Cabernet Sauvignon 45%, Merlot 29%,  
Petit Verdot 15%, Cabernet Franc 11%

**Vintage Season:** Cooler, moderate crop level, dry

**Barrels:** French oak, 40% New, 20 months

**Time in Cellar:** Bottled May, 2010

**Aroma:** Red and Black berry, peppercorn, dust,  
dried herb

**Taste:** Sweet blackberry, warm, bright, substantial  
structure, pleasant and persistent finish

**Alcohol:** 14.5%

**Lot Size:** 649 cases produced

## **Winemaker's Notes**

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2008 gave us classically Northwest styled wines of complexity and balance. We continue to base the blend on the 1998 Cabernet block, which is fan-trained, a relatively rare system. Merlot lends its usually lush fruit roundness to the blend, with Petit Verdot adding strength in structure and color, with coffee-bean and blackberry tones. Cabernet franc lifts the aromatics and makes for a more vibrant palate. The wine opens with dust in the nose, then blackfruits, and nuances of coffee and tobacco leaf. Generous ripe fruit, with a warming brightness are laid over solid tannins by mouth. The finish is lengthy with a pleasant dryness. I'd suggest this wine with heavier dishes of some complexity. In the cellar, the wine should age well for 8 to 10 years.

Casey McClellan / Winemaker

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