



ROCO WINES

THE VINEYARD

The Soles' small Wits' End Vineyard is situated on the southern slopes of the Chehalem Mountain Range that has recently been approved as a distinctive American Viticultural Area (AVA). The site is superbly located on the southwest slopes of the mountain range at an elevation of 400'. In the winter the Chehalem Mountains protect the vineyard from the northeast Arctic winds, and in the summer the Dundee Hills (to the south) transition the Pacific Ocean winds into gentle afternoon breezes.



The vineyard was planted to a high plant density (2,200 vines per acre) on devigorated rootstocks with what Rollin considers "the three sexiest Dijon Pinot Noir clones available". Wits' End Vineyard site is predominantly marine sedimentary soil and farmed for low yields. Further, the 7-acre vineyard is enhanced by the unusual presence of two, year-round, fresh water springs. The private, cloistered nature and tranquility of the site flows into the essence of the wine.

The Chehalem Mountains are a single uplifted landmass with spurs, mountains and ridges such as Ribbon Ridge, Parrott Mountain and Bald Peak, which, at 1,663 feet above sea level, is the highest point within the Willamette Valley. This fluctuating topography means that growing conditions vary considerably, resulting in grape ripening which can differ by as much as three weeks.

Tasting panels have determined that Chehalem Mountain wines share several common characteristics such as intensity of fruit flavors, often with a certain spiciness, and balanced tannins. The profiles are most evident in the Pinot noirs, which, depending on soil type and meso-climate, can be elegant and spicy with red fruit, or deep and firmly structured with black fruit tones.