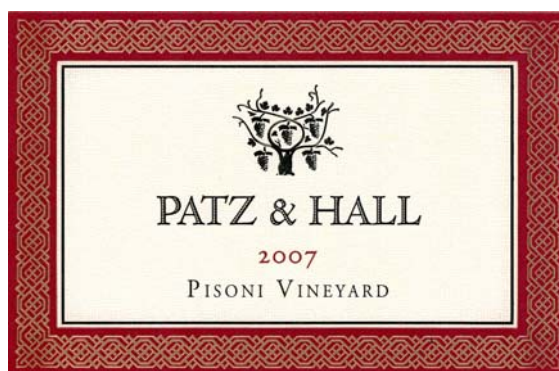




PATZ & HALL

## 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 Pisoni Vineyard Santa Lucia Highlands Pinot Noir**

“On entry this shows lovely richness married to a transparency that is unusual with wines of this size. The fruit is a bit tight but everything shows terrific balance. There’s a bit of cocoa up front and that remains as a bass note across the palate with fresh dark fruit popping on the mid-palate then falling back under the earth and cocoa on the finish. Really nice cut on the mid-palate and wonderful freshness. This lacks only a bit of complexity but is really a gorgeous Santa Lucia Highlands Pinot.”

**94 Points**

- Gregory Dal Piaz  
April 13, 2010