



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 Jenkins Ranch Russian River Pinot Noir**

“Cola, earth, musk, tea and blonde tobacco add depth and complexity to the dried strawberry and cherry fruits of the nose. This is velvety, rich and round with the seamless character of the best domestic Pinots. It lacks some of the brightness I prefer but has lovely depth and a layered feel on the palate. It’s soft yet intense with an earthy complexion that makes this an outlier for the style, though it is a wine that has something for just about everyone.”

**91 Points**

- Gregory Dal Piaz  
April 13, 2010