2008-2010 ACCOLADES
OREGON

2008 Pinot Noir, Willamette Valley, “Blue Label”

88 | Very Good | “Medium ruby red, it offers up expressive spice notes, earthy underbrush, cedar, and assorted black fruits. This leads to a medium-bodied wine with ample savory fruit, good acidity, and a bit of structure.”

2008 Pinot Noir, Eola-Amity Hills, Seven Springs Vineyard, Estate

92 | Outstanding | “Light and zesty, offering a lovely mineral note that wafts through the blackberry and currant fruit, coming together elegantly on the expressive finish.”

91 | Outstanding | “Dark ruby red, it surrenders an expressive nose of smoke, Asian spices, incense, and an amalgam of red and black fruits. On the palate it reveals excellent volume, savory flavors, good intensity, and precision.”

91 | Outstanding | “Pure, vibrant aromas of strawberry, raspberry and Asian spices. Juicy, silky and suave, with very good lift to the red berry and floral pastille flavors. Sweet and precise, finishes gently tannic and persistent, with a light touch.”

2008 Pinot Noir, Eola-Amity Hills, Seven Springs Vineyard, “La Source”

96 | Classic | Top 100: 2010 | “Refined, elegant, focused and complex, piling layer upon layer of subtle flavors onto a racy, deftly balanced frame. Blackberry, currant and mineral notes compete for attention and mingle harmoniously on the long, expressive finish.”

93 | Outstanding | “Slightly darker in color with more perfumed and complex aromatics with the addition of some earthy minerality. Savory, supple, and elegant, it will benefit from 3-4 years of additional bottle age and offer a drinking window extending from 2013 to 2023.”

93 | Outstanding | “Candied red and dark berry aromas are complemented by musky floral and herbal qualities, with notes of cocoa powder and anise sneaking in with aeration. Lush and creamy on entry, then shockingly energetic in the middle, offering sweet black raspberry and bitter cherry flavors and a spine of lively acidity. Finishes on a dark fruit note, with velvety tannins and excellent clarity.”

2008 Chardonnay, Eola-Amity Hills, Seven Springs Vineyard, “La Source”

94 | Outstanding | “Bright, agile and light on its feet, delivering mouthwatering, mineral-drenched green apple and grapefruit flavors. Lingers impressively, suggesting this will only flesh out and get deeper with age.”
2008-2010 ACCOLADES
OREGON

93 | Outstanding | “It reveals considerably more minerality accompanying flavors of spiced apple, poached pear, brioche, and hazelnuts. Super-concentrated with outstanding depth and precision, on the palate butterscotch and tropical notes make cameo appearances. This lengthy effort is likely to evolve in the manner of the finest white Burgundies.”

2008 Chardonnay, Eola-Amity Hills, Seven Springs Vineyard, “Summum”

Wine Spectator

95 | Classic | “Tangy, refined, complex and inviting, this steely wine has a leesy character that weaves through the lime, mineral, green tomato and green apple flavors. Unusual, but with tremendous finesse and depth. Unlike any other Oregon Chardonnay.”

94 | Outstanding | “[One] of the finest Chardonnays ever produced in the Willamette Valley.”

2008 Chardonnay, Eola-Amity Hills, Seven Springs Vineyard, “Blanc Tres Bon”

Wine Spectator

91 | Outstanding | “Medium straw-colored, it exhibits a classy perfume of mineral, brioche, white peach, and toasted hazelnuts. Creamy-textured, concentrated, and intense, on the palate, it displays lemony flavors and vibrant acidity leading to a pure, lengthy finish.”

2008 Pinot Noir, Eola-Amity Hills, Seven Springs Vineyard, “Red Queen”

International Wine Cellar

94 | Outstanding | “Deep ruby. Displaying scents of wild strawberry, Asian spices, rose and minerals, with a lively note of white pepper adding urgency. Sweet red berry and candied flower flavors stain the palate without showing any excess weight, picking up a note of bitter cherry on the back end. The finish is precise, penetrating and impressively pure, not to mention very persistent.”

93 | Outstanding | “It is a stylish, elegant effort with ... complexity, concentration, and length”

Wine Spectator

93 | Outstanding | “Bright and lively, but then this gets serious, featuring a gritty edge to the ripe cherry and red plum flavors. Turns minerally as the finish revs up. Shows depth, length and dimension without weight.”

2008 Gamay Noir, Eola-Amity Hills, Seven Springs Vineyard, “Celebration”

Wine Spectator

90 | Outstanding | “Dark ruby-colored, it has an expressive nose of black cherry, blackberry, and plum. This is followed by a smooth-textured, ripe, savory wine with serious depth of flavor, excellent balance, and a fruit-filled finish.”
2009 Pinot Noir, Willamette Valley, Blue Label

90 | Outstanding | “It offers up an alluring bouquet of balsam wood, lilacs, spice box, black cherry, and black raspberry. This leads to a firm, savory, elegant, velvety textured wine that will provide enjoyment over the next 7-8 years.”

90 | Outstanding | “Suave and silky, with good intensity and depth to its pure red fruit and spice flavors. Shows power without any undue weight and an attractive sappy quality.”

91 | Smart Buy | “A strong mineral note weaves through the beautifully modulated berry and peach skin character, while the finish lingers with impressive intensity. Offers deft balance and a distinctive flavor profile.”

2009 Pinot Noir, Eola-Amity Hills, Seven Springs Vineyard

92 | Outstanding | “Crisp, with a layer of gritty tannins around berry and plum flavors, with a nice mineral character to the finish. Best from 2013 through 2019.”

92 | Outstanding | “Aromas of red berries, mace, potpourri and white pepper, with slow-mounting minerality. Juicy, sharply focused raspberry and cherry flavors show very good depth and vivacity, picking up a sexy floral nuance with air. This silky, precise pinot finishes with strong punch, excellent persistence, no excess fat.”

91 | Outstanding | “Expressive aromas of sandalwood, exotic spices, violets, black cherry, and black raspberry inform the nose of a satin-textured, round, succulent, nicely proportioned wine that has exceptional concentration and depth for the vintage.”

2009 Pinot Noir, Eola-Amity Hills, Seven Springs Vineyard, “La Source”

96 | Superlative | “This masterful pinot noir embodies that wonderful varietal paradox of suppleness matched with tensile strength. Its floral scents of violets and roses rise over earth-dusted cherries and a hint of tar. With air the wine gets silkier, livelier, while its flavors are simultaneously light and earthbound—lithe, sinewy and transparent even as it remains forceful and assertive.”

92 | Outstanding | “Light and tangy, with hints of blueberry and plum behind the raspberry and slate flavors up front, lingering nicely on the delicate finish.”
2008-2010 ACCOLADES
OREGON

92 | Outstanding | “Ripe, deeply pitched aromas of blackberry, cherry and candied plum, with notes of anise and violet adding complexity. The most powerful of this set of pinots, with chewy texture and hefty dark berry and bitter cherry flavors. Shows a seamless, pliant texture and the ripeness of the year, but there’s very good energy too. The finish clings with serious tenacity, repeating the cherry note.”

91 | Outstanding | “It has much to recommend it; spicy flavors, impeccable balance, and superb concentration and length for the vintage”

2009 Chardonnay, Eola-Amity Hills, Seven Springs Vineyard, “La Source”

97 | Classic | Top 100: 2011 | “Vibrant and poised, balancing its intense flavor profile of pear, quince and lemon blossom with layers of minerality on an electric structure that sparks with beautifully modulated acidity. A stunning white that has tremendous depth and presence.”

96 | Superlative | “This is one of those rare American chardonnays that transcends the usual paradigm of “fruit first, ask questions later.” There’s a pineapple scent in its complex bouquet, but it’s in the service of greater elements—mineral, oyster shell, talc and the fine tang of lees. On the palate it has the acidity of a wine from the Mâcon; in its silky line and subtle richness it gives a nod to great Pouilly-Fuissé. The acidity keeps it firm and detailed, while shaping the minerality in the texture, hardly upstaging it. Drinking beautifully now, it has the stuff to age and delight for ten years or more.”

92 | Outstanding | “On the palate it reveals [great] concentration, depth, and complexity. Nicely proportioned with vibrant acidity, a creamy texture, and exceptional length”

2009 Pinot Noir, Eola-Amity Hills, Seven Springs Vineyard, “Summum”

95 | Superlative | “This has demonstrative black cherry and plum scents framed by hints of woodland briar and dried flowers. The wine is both ripe and lean, with flavors of wild cherry sprinkled with herbs and flowers, generous and clean-lined. Like La Source, it has presence without pronounced body, persistence without weight—contrasts that make the wine completely seductive and suggest a long life ahead.”

94 | Outstanding | “A delicate, ethereal style, light on its feet, with red berry and Earl Grey tea flavors gliding easily through the long, expressive finish. Gets more interesting with each sip, finishing harmonious and elegant.”

94 | Outstanding | “A heady, exotic bouquet displays an array of red fruit and floral qualities, with an intense mineral overtone. Graceful and precise, showing a completely different personality than the La Source, with sappy red berry and rose pastille flavors and notes of spicecake and blood orange. Mineral-driven and pure, with excellent finishing clarity and length; this will age on its balance.”
2008-2010 ACCOLADES
OREGON

93 | Outstanding | “It offers up [great] aromatic complexity, displays a superb combination of elegance and power, and a lengthy, pure finish. It is one of the stars of the vintage.”

2009 Chardonnay, Eola-Amity Hills, Seven Springs Vineyard, Summum

95 | Outstanding | “It offers up a complex perfume of minerals, smoke, floral notes, white peach, and spiced apple. This sets the stage for a remarkably rich, concentrated, and lengthy Chardonnay, one of the finest I have tasted from Oregon.”

Wine Spectator

95 | Classic | “Elegant, refined and racy, offering a taut mouthful of mineral, slate and chalk notes around a zingy core of lemon and quince flavors that don’t quit as the finish soars. Seems almost reticent, but the flavors keep hovering with amazing delicacy.”

2009 Chardonnay, Eola-Amity Hills, Seven Springs Vineyard, Mad Hatter

Wine Spectator

91 | Outstanding | “Taut, tangy, minerally and distinctive for its lemon blossom, grapefruit peel and green pear flavors, persisting easily on the sleek, racy finish.”

90 | Outstanding | “Attractive spice notes, jasmine, pear, and white peach aromas inform the nose of a vibrant, round, savory, medium-bodied Chardonnay. In the glass it displays moderate concentration, elegance, and a pure finish.”

2009 Gamay Noir, Eola-Amity Hills, Seven Springs Vineyard, “Celebration”

International Wine Cellar

90 | Outstanding | “High-pitched red berry aromas, with notes of cinnamon and allspice adding energy. Tangy on entry, then gains flesh and sweetness in the middle palate, offering pure raspberry and bitter cherry flavors and nervy spine. This brisk, clean blend finishes with very good cut and tangy bite.”

90 | Outstanding | “Medium ruby-colored, it emits herbal/terroir aromas and blueberry and plum fruit scents. Round and savory on the palate with excellent concentration and length, it is what the French would call a vin de plaisir.”

Wine Spectator

88 | Very good | “Light and tangy, with a resiny edge to the pretty berry and floral flavors, lingering delicately.”

2010 Gamay Noir, Eola-Amity Hills, Seven Springs Vineyard, ‘Celebration’

90 | Outstanding | “Aromas of smoke, game, and meat inform the nose of a concentrated wine with loads of flavor, excellent acidity, and a lengthy finish. Drink this outstanding effort over the next 4-5 years.”
2008-2010 ACCOLADES
OREGON

Wine Spectator

89 | Very Good | “Bright and lively, offering floral and stony overtones to the jazzy raspberry flavors. Silky finish. Drink now through 2013.”

2010 Pinot Noir, Eola-Amity Hills, Seven Springs Vineyard, Estate

Wine Spectator

93 | Outstanding | “Light and silky, this is beguiling for the way it deftly plays its polished red berry and black cherry fruit against glints of mineral and white pepper. The finish brings it all together seamlessly. Drink now through 2018.”

90 | Outstanding | “Tart cranberry, cherry, and red currant dominate the youthgully bright, brash Evening Land 2010 Pinot Noir Seven Springs Vineyard, whose further evocations of sassafras, black pepper, berry seeds and fruit pits emphasize the invigorating side of a wine that nevertheless shows ample sense of body (like its immediate stable mates, at just 13% alcohol) and largely makes up for any current lack of nuance simply through its sheer vivacity and persistent primary juiciness. This generic Seven Springs bottling – rendered in slightly higher volume than the corresponding La Source – ought to be not only well worth following but likely to take on some richness as well as further complexity over the next half dozen or more years.”

91 | Outstanding | “Vivid red. Intense, floral-accented aromas of raspberry and cherry, with hints of blood orange, cola and tobacco adding complexity. Offers an array of intense red fruit preserve flavors lifted by zesty acidity. The floral qualities come back on the finish, which lingers with impressive tenacity. This wine improves quite a bit with a brief decanting.”

2010 Pinot Noir, Eola-Amity Hills, Seven Springs Vineyard, ‘La Source’

Wine Spectator

95 | Outstanding | “Remarkable for its array of vivid flavors on a sleek, airy frame, shading its juicy raspberry and cherry fruit with a streak of wet rock, crushed rose petal and white pepper, all of it put together seamlessly. The finish just doesn’t quit. Drink now through 2020.”

Wine and Spirits

93 | Outstanding | “Light and sinewy, with a hint of sour cherry and dark strawberry...It broadens with air, the texture going creamy and gently sweet, brightened by fine acidity. It’s a wine that’s quiet and composed.”

92 | Outstanding | “Evening Land’s 2010 Pinot Noir Seven Springs Vineyard La Source – representing selected, inter alia shallower tufa and weathered basalt soils – predictably has much in common with its generic counterpart, notably an emphasis on invigoratingly tart, juicy cranberry and cherry tinged with sassafras, fruit pit, and black pepper. But here, much more complexity is achieved, including overtones of floral perfume, lemon oil, and licorice as well as a mouthwateringly savory salted red meat undertone that carries through the multilayered and almost unstoppable vibrant finish. The clarity and polish of this performance are unlikely to diminish over the coming decade, but rather to be enhanced by their stay in bottle.”
2008-2010 ACCOLADES
OREGON

International Wine Cellar

93 | Outstanding | “Bright ruby. Aromas of raspberry and cherry are complemented by suave floral and spicecake nuances. The palate offers an array of sweet red and dark berry flavors, along with notes of candied lavender, cola and allspice. This juicy, precise pinot finishes with outstanding finishing and lingering florality. Less forthcoming than the Red Queen, I suspect that it will age a bit longer.”

2010 Pinot Noir, Eola-Amity Hills, Seven Springs Vineyard, ‘Red Queen’

International Wine Cellar

93 | Outstanding | “Vivid ruby-red. Cherry-cola, blackberry and Asian spices on the exotically perfumed nose. Lush, pliant and sweet, offering intense red and dark berry preserve flavors and notes of sassafras and star anise. A subtle vanilla note carries through the long, penetrating finish, which shows no rough edges. This pinot has the depth to age but already drinks very easily.”

Wine Spectator

93 | Outstanding | “Lots of ripe cherry and spice flavors play with deftness on an open frame. This is generous with its fruit and shows subtle hints of black pepper and licorice, finishing with intensity and impressive length. Drink now through 2018.”

92 | Outstanding | “With their 2010 Pinot Noir Seven Springs Vineyard Red Queen, the Evening Land team repeats an experiment attempted in the 2008 vintage of including around one-third whole clusters and stems in the ferment. The result makes for a striking and illuminating contrast with the otherwise nearly identical fruit and methods that informed the La Source of this vintage. Iris, gentian, black pepper, licorice, and smoky black tea convey aromatic as well as inner-mouth complexity to tart-edged red berries, all of which combine for a distinctive and forceful resonance that carries into a gripping finish. There is a chew to the tannins here but also expansiveness to the wine’s flower-enhanced inner-mouth perfume that set it apart from its stable mates. This is going to be fascinating to follow in parallel with its La Source sibling over the coming decade.”

2010 Chardonnay, Eola-Amity Hills, Seven Springs Vineyard, ‘La Source’

Wine Spectator

95 | Outstanding | “Jazzy, racy and distinctive, showing strong mineral accents underpinning the lively lemon and pineapple flavors, with hints of clove that whoosh through the savory frame. Graceful and expressive. Drink now through 2020.”

89+ | Very Good | “The Evening Land 2010 Chardonnay Seven Springs Vineyard La Source delivers considerable pungency, piquancy and bite of lime peel, white pepper, coriander, fruit pit, and parsnip in a broad, subtly creamy, yet persistently juicy matrix of fresh apple. There is a tension here that may prove more fruitful as the wine evolves (perhaps directly?), and I would certainly anticipate its being worth following for at least 3-4 years.”
2008-2010 ACCOLADES
OREGON

Wine & Spirits

95 | Exceptional | “As they have in past vintages, Evening Land’s Seven Springs chardonnays manage to express an extra dimension of flavor, beyond fruit, beyond structure, penetrating new realms of complexity. This ethereal white leads with nutty lees and delicate background accents of pear and apple. The flavors, more biscuit and mild, assert themselves with a textural focus that’s as graceful – and as thrilling – as grand cru Chablis.”

2010 Chardonnay, Eola-Amity Hills, Seven Springs Vineyard, ‘Summum’

Wine Spectator

96 | Exceptional | “Light, racy and aromatic, with depth, offering mineral notes of crushed wet stone before delivering beautifully restrained apple, pineapple and citrus flavors that play against a lean, sinewy frame. The finish doesn’t quit. Drink now through 2020.”

Robert Parker's

92 | Outstanding | “A gorgeous, high-toned nose of white peach, iris, verbena, and lemon oil wafts from the glass, along with intimations of crushed stone, iodine, and crustacean shell reduction that mouthwateringly mingle with pure fruit and inner-mouth perfume on a polished yet almost athletically lean palate. Invigoratingly zesty and saliva-inducing mineral notes add to the vibrant appeal of a long finish that preserves this wine’s utmost clarity of fruit and seductive florality. I imagine it will be worth following for the better part of a decade, considering that the 2007 (also reviewed on this occasion) isn’t showing the least sign of fading. If only there were more than the roughly 220 cases that exist of this (as well as of its La Source counterpart).”

Wine & Spirits

94 | Exceptional | “Lean, angular and attenuated, with filigreed scents of lees and dried pineapple, this has a high-toned character. With air a soft vanilla spice emerges to accent the fruit, and a hint of mace or clove spice to adorn the finish. Everything seems to be in place; it’s just years from its peak expression.”