



# MOUNT PLEASANT

## SPARKLING PINOT NOIR 2005

Mount Pleasant is situated on the slopes of the Brokenback Ridge in the Hunter Valley, NSW. The estate was established in 1921 by the legendary winemaker Maurice O'Shea who recognised the special characteristics and longevity of Hunter Valley table wines. To this day, Mount Pleasant continues to bottle-age commercial quantities of wines until they are considered at their peak to release.

**Vineyard Region** Hunter Valley, NSW

**Vineyard Conditions** The growing season leading up to the 2005 vintage was excellent, characterised by cool to mild growing conditions and even rainfall. Mild weather with good rainfall in October led to fine flowering and even fruit set. December was unusual for the Hunter Valley with cool days and cooler nights providing ideal conditions for veraison and allowing the development of cooler climate fruit characters. Consistent January temperatures afforded excellent conditions for ripening. The 2005 vintage was one of the most rapid on record, with almost all varieties ripening simultaneously, a result of the differing temperatures and tremendous growing conditions.



**Grape Variety** Pinot Noir

**Vinification & Maturation** Harvested with good sugar levels, the Pinot Noir grapes were crushed and cold macerated for a period of two days. Fermentation was initiated with cool temperatures and pumping over occurred twice daily. The fermenting grapes were then gently pressed and the wine transferred to oak barrels to finish fermentation. Malolactic fermentation and oak maturation occurred before secondary fermentation and subsequent bottling.

### Winemaker Phil Ryan's Comments:

**Colour** Deep crimson with vibrant pink hues.  
**Aroma** Ripe strawberries combine with rhubarb and dark cherry aromas.  
**Palate** The palate is rich with spicy, ripe berry fruit characters, complemented beautifully by earthy characters with hints of gameyness.

### Chef Peter Howard's Serving Suggestions

A perfect wine to be served as an aperitif or with Asian duck dishes.

**Wine Analysis** Alc/Vol: 14.0%  
**Peak Drinking** Drinking well now or until 2008.  
**Last Tasted:** October 2006

PHIL RYAN  
Mount Pleasant Chief Winemaker

[www.mountpleasantwines.com.au](http://www.mountpleasantwines.com.au)

