

# CHRISTOPHER SMEATON

## OBJECTIVE

A position as a viticulturist or vineyard manager in which I can utilize my viticulture training and field experience to oversee and direct a premium winegrape growing operation.

## SUMMARY OF QUALIFICATIONS

- Experienced vineyard manager previously overseeing up to 16 sites with more than three hundred acres of premium and ultra premium wine grapes.
- Trained viticulturist.
- Able to plan and implement every aspect of site development.
- Able to plan, implement and work within an operating budget.
- Knowledgeable of all daily field operations, including irrigation, pest control, canopy management, spray operations and tractor operations.
- Experienced directing a team of foremen and overseeing a crew of up to one hundred sixty.
- Informed and up-to-date, through continuing education and professional development, on vineyard technologies and practices.
- Familiar with human resources and payroll.
- Knowledge and application of organic, Biodynamic and sustainable agricultural practices.
- Skilled at grower-winery relations, contracts and fruit price negotiations.
- Trained and experienced in premium wine production.
- Excellent managerial, organizational and analytical skills.
- Proficient with conversational and written Spanish.
- Proficient with Mac and PC.

## EXPERIENCE

01/2007 - Present  
West Linn, OR

Holloran Vineyard wine

### ***Viticulturist/Vineyard manager***

- Cleared and developed new vineyard site.
- Worked with leading Biodynamic consultant.
- Transitioned one site from conventional to organic viticulture.

10/2006 - 11/2006                      Left Coast Cellars  
Rickreall, OR

***Vintage Assistant***

- General winemaking and cellar duties.

2/2001 – 11/2005                      Northwest Vineyard Service  
Amity, OR

***Vineyard Manager***

- Implemented company safety program.
- Initialized the implementation of environmentally-friendly practices as a long term plan to improve safety and health standards for vineyard workers.
- Streamlined and refined vineyard labor practices to allow for the creation and continuous employment of a skilled and well-trained crew.
- Organized a Spanish-language class to instruct vineyard foremen in modern viticulture theories and practices.

2002-2004                                  Santiam Pass Ski Patrol  
Santiam Pass, OR

***Ski Patroller***

- Volunteer with the National Ski Patrol
- Trained first responder

9/2000 – 2/2001                      Amity Vineyards  
Amity, OR

***Harvest Intern***

- Implemented vineyard sampling procedure to allow for accurate fruit appraisal.
- Created metric-standard conversion worksheets for wine additional calculations to minimize errors.

3/2000 – 6/2000                      Montana Brancott Winery  
Marlborough, New Zealand

***Harvest Winemaking Intern***

- Gained practical experience with heavy winery equipment, farm equipment and large trucks.

3/1999 – 3/2000                      Pegasus Bay  
Waipara, New Zealand

***Vineyard Intern***

- On-site training at premier vineyard and winery in pruning, canopy management,

pest and disease control and irrigation systems.

5/1994 – 10/1998                      Independent Contractor  
London, England

***Investment Banker***

- Legal contract negotiating, trader operations, specialized in derivative products.

## EDUCATION

2006  
***Spanish intermedio***                      Spanish Experience Centre  
Puerta Vallarta, Mexico

2005    University of Guadalajara  
Puerta Vallarta, Mexico  
***Spanish 1 & 2***

2003    National Ski Patrol  
Oregon, USA  
***Outdoor Emergency Care***

1999 – 2000                                      Christchurch Polytechnic  
Christchurch, New Zealand  
***Certificate: Viticulture and Winemaking***

1988 – 1990                                      University of Canterbury  
Christchurch, New Zealand  
***B.A., Psychology***

## PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

- Oregon Winegrowers Association
- Polk County Winegrowers Group
- Oregon Grape Symposium – Annual Participant
- International Pinot Noir Celebration – Annual Participant
- The Surfrider Foundation
- National Ski Patrol

## **PROFESSIONAL LICENSES AND CONTINUING EDUCATION**

- Pesticide Applicator's License – State of Oregon & New Zealand
- Spanish in the Vineyard – Chemeketa Community College, Salem, OR
- Canopy Management – Dr. Richard Smart Seminar Series
- Outdoor Emergency Care Technician (EMT1 equivalent)
- Winery and Vineyard Safety - Chemeketa Community College, Salem OR

**Excellent references available on request**