

# TASTING THE PUGET SOUND OYSTER

## *on the Half Shell*

### *Taste Differences in the Puget Sound Regions*

Like wine and cheese, oysters owe much of their flavor to terroir, the specific environment in which they grow—indeed, oysters are the food that tastes most like the sea.

North Puget Sound is full of island coves that are deep and rocky. They tend to be brinier than those of the South Sound and lighter-flavored—more cucumber than smoke.

The Hood Canal is steep and deep: steep mountains above, deep waters below. The classic Hood Canal flavor is very different from that of the South Sound: more lettuce and lemon zest, saltier, less sweet, and very firm.

South Puget Sound is comprised of five long, narrow inlets. Each inlet has its distinctions, but they all contribute that characteristic South Sound flavor—full, rich, intense, more sweet than salty, a hint of cooked greens or seaweed, bordering on musky.

### KEY

#### SHELL STRENGTH



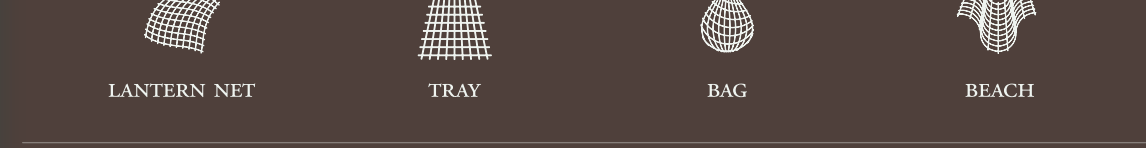
#### TASTE



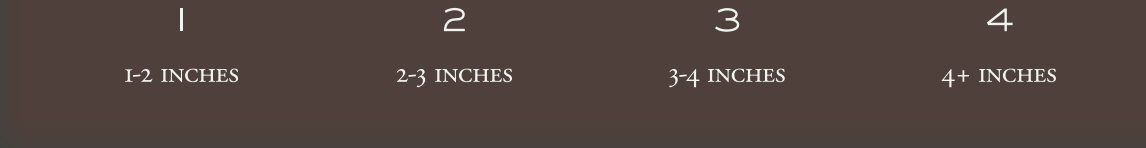
#### AGE



#### AQUACULTURE



#### SIZE



	STAGE I		STAGE II		STAGE III							
	AMINITY	BRINY	MEAT	CREAMY	CRISP	VEGETAL	MELON	FRUITY	METALLIC	SALTY	SWEET	
<b>NORTH PUGET SOUND</b>												
PENN COVE SELECT	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
BAKER	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
SAMISH BAY	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
SNOW CREEK FLAT	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
OTTER COVE	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
JUDD COVE	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
WESTCOTT BAY PETITE	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
SNOW CREEK	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
NAKED ROY'S BEACH	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
<b>HOOD CANAL</b>												
BAYWATER SWEET	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
SISTER POINT	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
DABOB BAY	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
HAMA HAMA	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
PEBBLE COVE	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
GOLD CREEK	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
QUILCENE	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
<b>SOUTH PUGET SOUND</b>												
EAGLE ROCK	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
STEAMBOAT	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
HAMMERSLET INLET	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
TOTTEN INLET	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
KUMAMOTO	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
BARRON POINT	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
CHELSEA GEM	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
ELD INLET	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
OLYMPIA	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
LITTLE SKOOKUM	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
WILDCAT COVE	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●

