

2002 Merry Edwards Pinot Noir Sonoma Coast

This stylish Pinot Noir originated in my own estate vineyard planted in 1998. Located on a southeast-facing slope at the southern boundary of the Russian River Valley, our sustainably-farmed vines produce grapes with a cool climate profile: heady, perfumed aromas and a sleek, firm structure.

Because multiple clones build complexity in wine, I planted five selections of Pinot Noir in my vineyard. The French clones enhance the structure of the wine, while the old, classic California selections round out the mid-palate. Drawing on the qualities of all five, I crafted a fruit-forward wine with a lively, accessible character. Gentle vinification and judicious use of French oak barrels produced this luscious Pinot Noir.

Aromas of rosewater, lavender and anise introduce this mouth-watering wine. Toasty oak takes its place in the background, integrating smoothly with the flavors of blueberry. Supple in the mouth, this Pinot Noir has a long finish, extending the enjoyment of its complex, fruity character. Quail breast glazed with lavender honey would be an excellent match for the wine's full spectrum of flavors.