



2011 Merry Edwards Pinot Noir
Russian River Valley

This six-vineyard composition gives me the opportunity to blend lots from each of our estate vineyards – Coopersmith, Georganne, Flax and Meredith – with grapes from both Olivet Lane and Klopp. It dramatically reflects the vibrant core personality of our home region here in the Russian River Valley. Its terroir is unique in the world of cool growing regions, giving us the advantage of proximity to the ocean sheltered by the coastal mountain range. This specific placement results in a wide differential in day-to-nighttime temperatures of some 40 to 50 degrees during the fall ripening season. In combination with superbly well-drained soils, this leads to deep color, rich mouthfeel and dramatically complex aromas.

Our 2011 Pinot Noir is a wonderful example of these converging influences. The wine's vibrant aroma melds intense fruit with savory characteristics. Mouthwatering cherry, blackberry, boysenberry and cola are complemented by accents of lightly roasted coffee, cocoa and fresh earth. Its substantial structure supports a generous amount of new oak, adding white pepper, toasty cinnamon and vanilla to its many layers. The wide palate is smooth and rich with an extended finish that just goes on and on.

Bill Root submitted his *Blackened Fish Over Edamame Corn Succotash à la Root* to our Win a Magnum contest and came out a winner! The Cajun-spiced salmon and yummy mix of earthy vegetables were a delicious pairing with our Russian River Valley Pinot. Enjoy!