



Merry Edwards Winery

RUSSIAN RIVER VALLEY

2004 Merry Edwards Pinot Noir Russian River Valley Klopp Ranch

Living at home on his beautiful vineyard, Ted Klopp farms with attentiveness and intensity, coaxing ripe, luxurious flavors from his carefully tended grapes. Planted in the sandy Goldridge soils of Laguna Ridge, his vines require precise water management and painstaking crop thinning. The glorious payoff: perfectly ripe, small-berried clusters with concentrated flavors and smooth, fine-grained tannins.

At harvest time, the grapes effuse lush flavors of black plums and succulent, wild blackberries. Using my *Méthode à l'Ancienne* techniques and aging the wine in seventy-three percent new French oak barrels, I captured the fruit's innate opulence. Big, beautiful and intense on the palate, with mouthwatering flavors of dark fruits and haunting echoes of violets and roses, this captivating wine expresses a bold character and a long, sublime finish. With all its weight and personality, the wine has sensational aging potential.

Here is a perfect partner for long simmered lamb shanks or roast tenderloin of venison with blackberry sauce. At home I often serve Klopp Ranch Pinot Noir with a plate of aged, artisan cheese and a bit of triple cream or blue as a delicious climax to a wonderful meal.