



Merry Edwards Winery

RUSSIAN RIVER VALLEY

2006 Merry Edwards Pinot Noir Russian River Valley Meredith Estate

Each year the five diverse clones of Pinot Noir grown on our estate vineyard respond individually to the conditions of the vintage, thus allowing me the opportunity to vary winemaking technique. In 2006 I tried different lengths of cold soak with Dijon 667, changed percentages of whole clusters added to the Swan selection and in the Dijon 777, compared several new available yeast strains. My focus on these trials led to the production of fifteen distinctive batches of wine from this single vineyard.

My next challenge was to evaluate the resulting wines. How well does each reflect the core personality of this site? My charge every vintage is to create a Pinot Noir reflecting the enduring qualities of our southernmost Russian River Valley property. As a result of the long, cool 2006 season, the successful blend was a combination of multiple small lots of Dijon 667.

The final wine is one of seamless complexity and graceful, alluring elegance. Intense aromas of crushed red raspberries, white chocolate and sarsaparilla are complemented by hints of cardamom and tea spices. On the palate this Pinot is finely balanced showing firmness, good acidity and the promise of long-term ageability.

Our Meredith Estate Pinot pairs beautifully with lamb marinated in Jasmine tea presented on a bed of puréed sweet peas, Asian style baby back ribs or baked rigatoni with mushrooms and prosciutto.