



Merry Edwards Winery
RUSSIAN RIVER VALLEY

2013 Merry Edwards Pinot Noir
Russian River Valley
Olivet Lane

I have been making wine from this famous property since the mid-1980s and for my own label since 1997. As this precious crop grows smaller, I feel privileged each year to receive grapes from these mature vines now in their fifth decade. My friendship with the owner, Bob Pellegrini, falls in step with our mutual respect for his land.

My understanding of the vineyard has grown over time, allowing me to formulate winemaking decisions that extract the powerful, core persona of this terroir. The Martinelli selection grown on this Santa Rosa Plains site would be an appropriate choice even today. It makes an elegant, classic style of Pinot Noir in the best tradition of Russian River Valley.

The intensely floral aroma features scents of cherry blossoms and fragrant roses. Ripe boysenberries, dark cherries, ripe raspberries and red plums are vibrantly present. A touch of nutmeg, soft caramel and vanilla hint at the barrel aging of this wine in 81 percent new French oak. This fine sweet oak also supports the palate, creating a rich and highly textural experience. Recent vertical tastings of vintages going back to 1999 have revealed the wine's extraordinary capability for aging.

Eric Stone conceived this magnum-winning *Risotto con Funghi, Noci e Mascarpone*. The earthy character of the dish complements the fruity, floral nature of this wine, making a savory pairing with our Olivet Lane Pinot Noir.