



Merry Edwards Winery

RUSSIAN RIVER VALLEY

2001 Merry Edwards Pinot Noir Russian River Valley Olivet Lane Vineyard

Olivet Lane is a heritage vineyard of Pinot Noir vines, over thirty years old. Located on prime benchland just east of the Laguna de Santa Rosa, the vineyard offers fruit that perfectly defines Russian River Pinot Noir: a mouthful of power and velvet.

Ripe, rich grapes from Olivet Lane convey classic, concentrated flavors, with Bing cherry in the forefront. Adopting traditional Burgundian winemaking, which I call *Méthode à l'Ancienne*, I cold soak the grapes, reserving a high portion of whole clusters for fermentation. Punching down the fermenting cap several times a day elevates the impressive fruit flavors and rich textures born in this vineyard. During ten months in sweet French oak, eighty-four percent new, the wine developed its curvaceous, spicy character.

Dark ruby in color, with mouthwatering aromas of sweet cherry, lavender and vanilla, the 2001 Olivet Lane delivers on its promise – a luscious, round wine with a long and elegant finish. Enjoy this plush wine now with the complementary flavors of braised quail or, for contrast, a fat salmon steamed in fig leaves. Vibrant fruit and voluptuous texture predestine this wine to a hearty, long life of expanding complexity.