



Merry Edwards Winery

RUSSIAN RIVER VALLEY

2003 Merry Edwards Pinot Noir Russian River Valley Olivet Lane

The theme of this wine might be Ode to the Cherry. Fresh, ripe cherry. Bing cherry juice. Succulent wild cherry. Cherry custard. Olivet Lane is one of the oldest and most classic Pinot Noir plantings in the Russian River Valley. Year after year the vineyard consistently produces grapes with complex, intense cherry flavors, a defining characteristic of our region's prominent Pinot Noirs.

I amplify the intensity of Olivet Lane grapes through *Méthode à l'Ancienne*, a series of traditional winemaking practices that intrinsically deepen the wine's aromas, flavors and textures. Aging the wine for ten months in French oak barrels – eighty-five percent new – introduced engaging smoky, toasted hazelnut and chocolate aromas that broaden the impression of this stunning, fruit-forward wine.

Following its own tradition, this Olivet Lane Pinot Noir is elegant, beautifully centered and sensuous. Balanced and integrated, the wine has a long, well-developed finish – qualities that promise a long life. This luscious bottling demonstrates the versatility of Pinot Noir with food. Enjoy this wine with a rich fish such as wild salmon, leg of lamb with pomegranate glaze or roasted pork loin with grilled apricots.