



# Merry Edwards Winery

RUSSIAN RIVER VALLEY

## 2001 Merry Edwards Pinot Noir Russian River Valley Windsor Gardens

This is the Grand Dame, a Pinot Noir that offers exquisite, seemingly endless pleasure. Captivating and gracefully seductive when young, it develops power and majesty as it ages.

Located in the northern Middle Reach of Russian River Valley, Windsor Gardens is a dry-farmed vineyard, over thirty years in age and planted with the classic Martini clone. The venerable old vines bear a small crop, rare and rich fruit with deep favor and weighty, velvety texture. I was fortunate to harvest enough fruit in 2001 to produce two hundred precious cases.

I crafted the wine using traditional Burgundian techniques, *Méthode à l'Ancienne*, cold soaking the grapes and fermenting in small open-top tanks. The wine aged ten months in French oak barrels specifically selected and coopered by *Dargaud & Jaegle* to enhance this wine.

Seductive and smooth, 2001 Windsor Gardens unfolds on the palate with elegant authority, revealing a complex array of classic aromas and flavors -- rose petals, dark cherry and plum -- and finishing with satiny refinement. This sultry, full-bodied wine is well suited to accompany wild mushroom ravioli or grilled lamb tenderloins with eggplant flan.