



2017 Merry Edwards Pinot Noir  
Russian River Valley  
Warrens' Hill

This is the inaugural release from this singular vineyard. It's perched high on top of a steep hillside in Green Valley along the western edge of Russian River Valley. This vineyard honors three Warrens who have been important in my life: Warren Dutton, a good friend and prominent grower; Warren Arnold, my friend, partner and a talented sculptor; and my son Warren, who passed away in 2006.

Every one of our single-vineyard bottlings has its own unique personality. This vineyard is young, so we are not sure if the strong, exotic, spicy character we see in this vintage will be enduring. It does show a promising level of complexity reminiscent of Windsor Gardens, which was the source of the budwood.

The fruit profile of this Pinot is chock-full of berries, tart cherry, blueberry and blue violets along with notes of cola and anise. With aeration, the aroma expands, revealing scents of cassis, plum, warm brioche and apricot skin.

Mineral-driven tannins on the palate reflect the thin topsoil at this hilltop location. For such a youthful vineyard, the palate is bigger than expected and well-balanced with lively acidity and a lengthy finish. We look forward with great anticipation to the development of this wine.

The exotic, spicy nature of this Pinot inspired me to pair it with *Elk Tenderloin with Mushroom Sauce*. This delicious dish, created by winery friend and avid hunter Tommy Cook, has earthy flavors that complement our Warrens' Hill. Congratulations on a magnum-winning recipe!