



2018 PINOT NOIR RUSSIAN RIVER VALLEY WARRENS' HILL

Warrens' Hill Vineyard was created from cuttings taken from Windsor Gardens Vineyard, which had a loyal following among lovers of Merry Edwards Pinot Noirs. The budwood used to plant the vineyard came from Lee Martinelli Sr., who saved a handful of vine cuttings from the venerable old Windsor Gardens before it was torn out to make room for tract housing. New vines, propagated and raised in a nursery until their installation in the spring of 2012, are thriving atop a steep hillside in Green Valley on the western edge of Russian River Valley.

TASTING

This is just the second release of Warrens' Hill Pinot Noir, and the results are astounding. The deep red-purple color is almost black in saturation. Spicy notes of sandalwood and toasted oak lift from the nose with black cherries, plum, cola and undertones of minerality. The wine is concentrated upon entry, the mouth rich and dense with black fruit, mouth-filling tannins and chocolate notes that persist throughout a graceful and elegant finish.

PAIRING

Our DTC Director Jessica Edwards chose Pan-Seared Venison Loin with Cherry-Pinot Noir Reduction to pair with our 2018 Warrens' Hill Pinot Noir. "I always lean toward making foods that elevate the wine, not vice versa," she says. The dark cherry and plum characteristics of the wine are highlighted by the Cherry-Pinot Noir reduction, and the hints of chocolate on the finish are complemented by the savory, smoky and espresso-accented dry rub on the venison. Find this recipe at merryedwards.com.