



MERRY EDWARDS  
WINERY AND VINEYARDS

## COOPER SMITH VINEYARD

Coopersmith sits on the rolling Laguna Ridge near the town of Sebastopol, just west of the wintertime lake known as the Laguna de Santa Rosa. Merry Edwards and her husband, Ken Coopersmith, purchased the 9.5-acre apple orchard in 1999.



They planted this Russian River vineyard to Pinot Noir in the summer of 2001. The original vines included 50 percent Dijon 828, which turned out to be a poor match for this terroir. By 2008, the conversion was completed to 100 percent of the highly successful UCD 37, aka *Merry's clone*.

Practicing sustainable farming, Merry and Ken pampered these vines with micronutrients derived from timed applications of organic, oak-based mushroom compost, provided by their neighbor *Gourmet Mushrooms*. Watchful red-tail hawks and a pair of peregrine falcons patrol the vineyard for gophers and nest in the tall trees surrounding the property. Barn owls raise their young in the boxes on high poles scattered throughout the vines, capturing dozens of rodents each spring night. Originally the home of Haven Best's organic apples, the site proved its potential from the very first bottling in 2004. Coopersmith Pinot Noir characteristically presents aromas lush with cocoa and cherries, along with a rich mouthful of supple tannins.

- ❖ **Appellation:** Russian River Valley
- ❖ **Acreage:** 9.5 acres; 6.5 planted
- ❖ **Exposure:** South/southeast
- ❖ **Soil type:** Sebastopol Sandy Loam
- ❖ **Year planted:** 2001
- ❖ **Rootstocks:** 10114 and Schwarzmann
- ❖ **Scion wood clones:** UCD 37 (isolated by Merry Edwards at Mount Eden Vineyard, aka the *Merry Edwards* selection)
- ❖ **Vine spacing:** 5 x 8 feet, vertical trellis