Maisons Marques & Domaines

MERRY EDWARDS
WINERY AND VINEYARDS
RUSSIAN RIVER VALLEY

Merry Edwards Winery

Sonoma Coast Pinot Noir

Sonoma County, United States
Vintage: 2023

D	95	TP	95	JS	95	WS	93	V	92

Overview

Merry Edwards Winery was founded in 1997 and produces terroir-driven, single-vineyard wines from 80 acres of estate vineyards in the Russian River Valley. The winery is known for crafting Pinot Noirs of immense depth, elegant structure and exceptional longevity as well as its aromatic, barrel-aged Russian River Valley Sauvignon Blanc, which is among the most sought after made in California. A single-vineyard Chardonnay and Late Harvest Sauvignon Blanc round out the portfolio.

Our 2021 Sonoma Coast Pinot Noir is a textbook example of the fine wines that come from grapes grown near our coastal boundaries. Cool evening fog wafts in from the ocean during the early evening and recedes gradually by noon, leaving behind cool, refreshed vines ready to bask in the sun. This wine, a blend of grapes from multiple vineyards, is a true representation of the marine-influenced region, where the environment allows us to leave the grapes on the vine long enough to develop abundant aromas and deep flavors.

Winemaking

Grapes for this bottling were harvested from Sept. 23 to Oct. 3, 2023. The Pinot Noir was handpicked and hand sorted in the field and at the winery. Berries were 100% destemmed, with whole berries placed in the fermenter. The fruit was cold soaked for seven days prior to initiating fermentation. After fermentation finished, the grapes were gently pressed and the resulting wine was aged nine months in 28% new French oak barrels. Bottling was done on Aug. 13, 2024.

Tasting Notes

The 2023 Sonoma Coast Pinot Noir opens with gentle aromas of cedar, vanilla and Bing cherry that are followed by floral notes of freesia and violets. Spicy white pepper and bramble precede the silky entry. The palate is mouthwatering and structured, with uplifting flavors of Rainier cherry pie, blood orange zest and wild strawberries. The finish is marked by pleasant, lingering citrus notes.

Harvest Notes

After many years of drought, we welcomed a full dose of rain in 2023. The rains lasted throughout the spring, providing the vines with plenty of moisture to grow a healthy canopy and full crop load. It also helped to moderate temperatures, keeping frost at bay. The summer was very typical for the Russian River Valley, with cool nights and coastal fog that came in every evening, barely burning off by noon. The growing season's cooler temperatures led to a delayed and prolonged harvest, so patience was key. The resulting wines are elegant, with mouthwatering acidity and focused aromatics.

Food Pairing

A perfect match with the Sonoma Coast Pinot Noir is an over-the-top charcuterie board. Artisan cured meats, your favorite local cheeses and freshly baked baguettes, olives, nuts, dried fruits, pickled vegetables, roasted garlic.

TECHNICAL INFORMATION

Varietals: 100% Pinot Noir
Wine Alcohol: 14.5%
New Oak: 28%
Aging: 9 months