

## 2020 PINOT NOIR RUSSIAN RIVER VALLEY

This Pinot Noir has been crafted each vintage since 1997 with an eye toward highlighting the beautiful fruit grown throughout the appellation. Once we create our vineyard-designated wines, each of which showcases a unique terroir, we pick from the remaining lots those that will make up the blend for this wine. Being able to selectively choose from this array of vineyards allows us to clearly illustrate the diversity of terroir in the Russian River Valley Appellation, and the stunning aromas and rich wines of depth that we are able to produce year after year.

## **VINTAGE**

This wine opens with a big, aromatic burst of sweet sassafras, baking spice, blackberries and stone fruits. In the mouth, it is full and robust with ripe fruit and round tannins. As the wine continues to open, it shows a true purity of fruit and becomes silkier on the palate. Juicy, sweet notes of black cherries, violets and sweet vanilla oak carry though in a long, pleasing finish.

## PAIRING

Lamb is a classic protein to pair with our Russian River Valley Pinot Noir, and these herb-filled, juicy *Mediterranean Lamb Burgers* are no exception. What sets this recipe apart are the topping suggestions: spiced yogurt, olive tapenade, feta cheese, tomatoes, fresh spinach leaves, sautéed onions, mushrooms. You can do one, some or all of the toppings...the more, the messier! Find this recipe at merryedwards.com.