

Est.  1978

# MARK WEST

## *Pinot Noir*

APPELLATION RUSSIAN RIVER  
— VINTAGE 2006 —



Composition: Pinot Noir

Appellation: Russian River

Oak: French, 45% new

Alcohol: 13.8 %

Analysis: pH 3.75, TA 4.3 g/L

Cases Produced: 2,350 cases

**T**he Russian River appellation produces some of California's finest pinot noir wines. It is the birthplace for the fine single vineyard cult pinots that line fine wine lists and boutique retailer shelves.

Since 1978 Mark West has produced wines in this valley. Our philosophy regarding the pinot grape is: Pinot for the People.

In today's world, why take out a loan just to buy a case of fine pinot from the Russian River. Our Winemaker Alex Cose sourced award winning vineyards and put together a blend that's rich and flavorful, yet deliciously affordable too.

In 2006 everything from Chardonnay to Pinot Noir arrived at the crush pad on the same day. In late September after an early morning harvest the grapes were brought to our crush facility for a gentle breaking of the skins and a three-day cold soak in small open top stainless steel fermenters. Yeast was then added and the grapes were punched down twice a day to extract color and flavors. After about two and a half weeks the grapes were pressed and the wine was then aged in 45 percent new barrels for an additional 15 months

Our 2006 vintage shows a bright, rich garnet color. Aromatic notes of cranberries and strawberry preserves play against oak aging aromas of nutmeg and toasty caramel. The wine tastes of rich raspberry pie. with complexing flavors of green tea, bittersweet chocolate, vanilla crème and luscious, juicy cherries. While the wine exhibits a depth of flavors, it is still medium in weight with easy, soft tannins. The wine shows youthful, bright fruit yet it has had enough time in the bottle to mature and marry its flavors so that they carry easily along the palate.

Pair this pinot with fish, chicken, pork and simple grilled meats. It also is delicious by itself or with appetizers and salads. Our 2006 Mark West Russian River Pinot is rich, elegant, stylish and ready to be enjoyed.

Enjoy the taste of Russian River Pinot. You're worth it. And so are your friends and their friends, and their friends...Pinot for the People.