



*“Supple in texture, with rose petal and red fruit aromas, this lively, medium bodied wine is aged in predominantly French oak, which adds a subtle, toasty vanilla character. Ideal for current enjoyment, this pinot noir will hold nicely over the next 2-3 years.”*

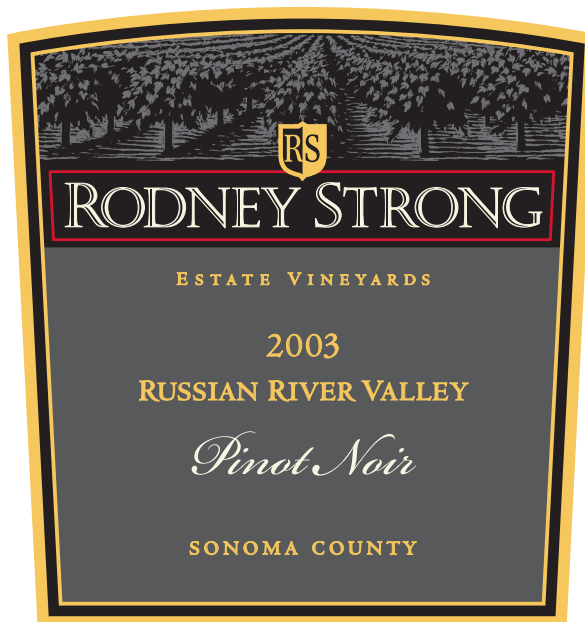
*Rick Sayre*

RICK SAYRE, WINEMAKER

**TECHNICAL ANALYSIS**

- WINEMAKER: Rick Sayre
- BLEND: 98% Pinot Noir, 2% Syrah
- APPELLATION: Sonoma County
- ALCOHOL: 13.8%
- TOTAL ACIDITY: 0.51 gm/100ml
- pH: 3.61
- RESIDUAL SUGAR: 0.05%
- CELLARING: 12 months in 34% New, 66% Seasoned Oak - 99% French Oak, 1% American Oak
- www.rodneystrong.com

2003  
**RODNEY STRONG VINEYARDS**  
 RUSSIAN RIVER VALLEY  
**PINOT NOIR**



**TASTING NOTES**

**R**od Strong was among the first modern wine pioneers with a vision to plant pinot noir in the Russian River Valley. In 1968 he planted our heritage River East Vineyard in the alluvial clay-loam soils adjacent to the winery in Healdsburg. Today the Russian River Valley is well established as one of the premier pinot noir growing regions in the world, and we continue to rely on the original River East Vineyard as a core contributor to our estate vineyard bottling.

During the growing season, the Russian River Valley is greatly subjected to cool, Pacific Ocean air, which is pulled in each afternoon as warm air in the interior valleys rises. This ocean air condenses, and the resulting nightly fog is slow to burn off, with vineyards frequently fogged-in as late as noon! The 2003 vintage began with a long wet spring, which delayed bloom and reduced yields for early varieties like pinot noir. Together with the typically foggy nights, a relatively cool summer slowed ripening initially, but a September heat wave allowed everything to catch up, and we finished picking all of this pinot noir by September 23rd.

Supple in texture, with rose petal and red fruit aromas, this lively, medium bodied wine is aged in predominantly French oak, which adds a subtle, toasty vanilla character. Ideal for current enjoyment, this pinot noir will hold nicely over the next 2 to 3 years.

