



**2014 Kesner Kings Russian River Pinot Noir:** The King family vineyard, farmed by Lee Martinelli JR, is a little Pinot Noir jewel in the midst of a sea of Chardonnay that I stumbled upon in 2012. I knew there was something different to be done with it as a wine. It would be easy to make it into a darker, heavier, more typical Russian River Valley Pinot Noir, but I'm trusting of harvesting it when the acids are bright, with a focus on retention of the delicate esters and characters. A Pinot Noir that speaks to the feminine side of the varietal. The vineyard sits on a sandy loam where the Santa Rosa plain meets the Laguna Ridge. Crushed rose petals, pomegranate, loganberry, tea leaves, slight earthen tones and a hint of dustiness on the nose that will translate to a Redwood forest floor like patina over time. A luxurious mid-weight yet very well structured mouthfeel with a finish that lasts, and lingers. Will really open with a little time in the glass. **Native fermentation, whole berry, no cold soak and only lightly mixed, no punchdowns or pumpovers. Only free run juice, no pressing. Aged in 10% newer Francois Frères cooperage, sur lie for 16 months.**

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Kesner Wines-info@kesnerwines.com-707-975-6463

PO Box 87, Healdsburg, CA