



1997 Diamond Mountain Vineyard Cabernet Sauvignon



Technical Notes

Varietal: 100% Cabernet Sauvignon

Harvested: October 3, 1997

Brix at Harvest: ° 25.5

Alcohol: 14.5%

Total Acidity: 66

pH: 3.66

Quantity Produced: 1,650 6-pk cases

Release Date: September 1, 2000

Vineyards: 100% Diamond Mountain Vineyards,
Napa Valley

" A mountain vineyard is the most beautiful site on earth " - Martin Ray

The Vineyards

The grapes for Martin Ray Diamond Mountain Cabernet Sauvignon are grown on the spectacular Diamond Mountain, which rises between 1800 and 2100 feet elevation above the Napa Valley. The vineyards nestle on a northeastern slope, where mornings are typically brisk and fog-free, while northwesterly winds continue to cool the vineyard throughout the growing season. This unique mountain vineyard site provides a variety of soils, superior sun exposure and nighttime cooling, producing small, intense, full-flavored berries.

Vintage Notes

The spring and summer of 1997 showed good promise with an abundant crop. Rains threatened in late summer, but fortunately the skies remained clear until the grapes were harvested in early October. Many wine enthusiasts consider the 1997 vintage to be the best in years.

Winemakers Notes

The winemaking techniques used in creating our Cabernet are the same as those perfected by the legendary Martin Ray over sixty years ago. Although labor intensive, these techniques produce distinctly enhanced flavors and texture in our wines. Open-topped fermentation and hand-punch down are time-honored techniques, creating rich structure in the wine. Minimal SO₂ usage preserves fruit intensity and enhances the rich, round tannins. French barrels intensify the complexity and character of the wine. The 1997 vintage continues Martin Ray Diamond Mountain Cabernet Sauvignon's tradition of exceptional quality, structure and finesse.