

MARTIN RAY WINERY
2000 SANTA CRUZ MOUNTAINS
CABERNET SAUVIGNON



TECHNICAL NOTES

Varietal: 100% Cabernet Sauvignon

Harvest Dates:

October 17, 2000

Brix at Harvest: 26°

Alcohol: 14.8%

Total Acidity: 0.60

pH: 3.83

Quantity Produced: 225 cases

“A mountain vineyard is the most beautiful site on earth.” —MARTIN RAY

THE VINEYARDS

The Martin Ray Santa Cruz Mountain Cabernet Sauvignon is the union of two distinguished Mountain vineyards, Cooper-Garrod Vineyards and Fellom Ranch. The Cooper-Garrod Vineyard soil composition is made up of adobe clay mixed with gravel. On the Fellom Ranch, located on Monte Bello Ridge, the shallow, stony soils control vine growth, resulting in smallish berries with intense flavors and structure. These mountaintop vineyards are privileged with morning and evening fog, together with maritime influences from the San Francisco Bay. These idyllic conditions lengthen the growing season, allowing the grapes to reach maturity with deep color and concentrated flavors.

VINTAGE NOTES

The 2000 vintage had a perfect start with bud break in the middle of March. The weather throughout the spring and early summer remained pleasant, and then July hit with a record heat wave. Cold temperatures slowed things down a bit in August and late September brought cooler weather, which allowed the complexities of the fruit to develop. Fortunately this was followed by warm weather, which completed the ripening process. The long harvest blessed our winemaker with additional time to concentrate on ripening the fruit to its peak maturity.

WINEMAKER'S NOTES

After being hand-harvested, the grapes follow the meticulous winemaking techniques perfected by Martin Ray over 60 years ago. The grapes are gently crushed and fermented in open-top tanks, creating rich structure in the wine. Minimal sulfur dioxide usage preserves fruit intensity and enhances the rich, round tannins. French barrels intensify the complexity and character of the wine. Although labor intensive, these techniques produce superbly enhanced flavors and textures in our wines. The Santa Cruz Cabernet Sauvignon is a distinctive wine with spicy, peppery aromatics, beautiful balance and solid structure. Due to its unique style, this wine will maintain interest and liveliness for many years to come. As with all our Martin Ray wines, the 2000 Santa Cruz Mountain Cabernet Sauvignon will reward the patient collector.