



*A mountain vineyard is the most beautiful sight on earth.* —MARTIN RAY

## MARTIN RAY 2005 SANTA CRUZ MOUNTAINS RESERVE CABERNET SAUVIGNON

**THE VINEYARDS** The Martin Ray Santa Cruz Mountains Cabernet Sauvignon is the union of two distinguished vineyards: Cooper-Garrod Vineyards and Fellom Ranch. The Cooper-Garrod Vineyard soil composition is made up of adobe clay mixed with gravel, and offers berries with rich, concentrated fruit flavors. 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, due to maritime influences from the San Francisco Bay. These idyllic conditions lengthen the growing season, allowing grapes to reach maturity with deep color and concentrated flavors.

**VINTAGE NOTES** The 2005 harvest was an excellent vintage for the Santa Cruz Mountains, producing moderate crop yields. The slow ripening season without heat spikes contributes to the positive qualities of the fruit: intense color, concentrated flavors and beautiful aromatics. The vintage of 2005 promise wines with elegance, balance and structure.

**WINEMAKER'S NOTES** After being hand-harvested, the grapes follow the meticulous winemaking techniques perfected by Martin Ray over sixty years ago. The grapes are gently crushed and fermented in open-top tanks for two weeks, creating rich structure in the wine. Minimal sulfur dioxide usage preserves fruit intensity and enhances the rich, round tannins. Aged for thirty-six months in French oak barrels—35 percent new oak barrels and 65 percent in 1–4 year old barrels—intensifies the complexity and character of the wine. Although labor intensive, these techniques produce superbly enhanced flavors and textures in our wines. The Santa Cruz Mountains Cabernet Sauvignon is a distinctive wine with beautiful balance and solid structure. Inviting, elegant aromas of vanilla and cherry lead to lush flavors of blackberry and plum, finishing with a lingering whisper of toasty oak. Due to its unique style, this wine will maintain interest and liveliness for years to come.

**FOOD & WINE PAIRING** Enjoy our Santa Cruz Mountains Cabernet Sauvignon alongside beef with sautéed mushrooms and garlic mashed potatoes or roasted rack of lamb.

### TECHNICAL NOTES

VARIETAL | 100% Cabernet Sauvignon

RELEASE DATES | March 2009

BRIX AT HARVEST | 25.6

TOTAL ACIDITY | 0.64%

pH | 3.63

ALCOHOL | 14.4%

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