

MARTIN RAY WINERY

2 0 0 8

Merlot

NAPA VALLEY

TECHNICAL NOTES

VARIETAL

84% Merlot
11% Cabernet Sauvignon
4% Syrah

RELEASE DATES

February 2010

BRIX AT HARVEST

25.6

TOTAL ACIDITY

0.56%

ph

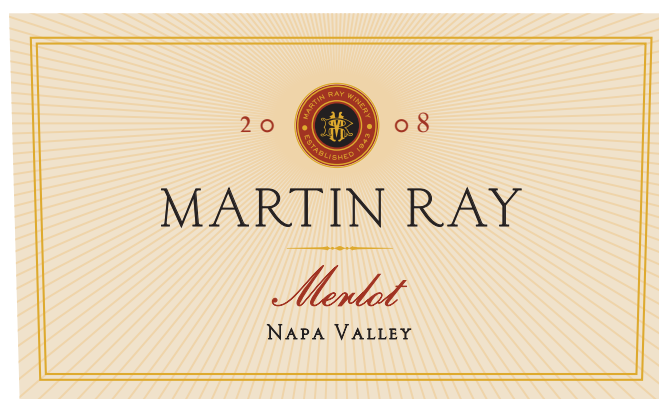
3.71

ALCOHOL

14.3%

MARTIN RAY WINERY

2191 LAGUNA ROAD
SANTA ROSA, CA 95401
(707) 823-2404
FAX (707) 829-6151
MARTINRAYWINERY.COM



Great wine lights a fire in the soul.

—MARTIN RAY

THE VINEYARDS The grapes for our 2008 Martin Ray Merlot are a unique blend of vineyards carefully selected from the renowned Napa Valley, including grapes from Yountville and Stags Leap District appellations. The sun-drenched vineyards nestled within this region experience typically brisk, fog-free mornings, accompanied by a consistent temperate climate throughout the growing season.

VINTAGE NOTES The 2008 harvest started off a bit challenging, but produced beautiful fruit all the same. The year began with unexpected late frost, heat spikes and unseasonable rain. However, the end of spring and all through summer provided idyllic conditions that remained around 80 degrees with dry weather and few heat spikes. Lower yields allowed intense, superb fruit to develop.

WINEMAKER'S NOTES Our 2008 Martin Ray Napa Valley Merlot has a deep garnet color highlighted by aromas of ripe cherry, black currant and a soft hint of vanilla. Lush fruit flavors of dark plum and fresh cherry are nicely rounded out by rich vanilla oak. The generous flavors echo perfectly through to a deep elegant finish. Aged sixteen months in French oak barrels.

FOOD & WINE PAIRING A dish of roasted rack of lamb with rosemary or a tri-tip roast would be an excellent match with this Merlot.