

MARTIN RAY WINERY

2009

Merlot

NAPA VALLEY

TECHNICAL NOTES

VARIETAL

95% Merlot

5% Cabernet Sauvignon

RELEASE DATE

February 2011

BRIX AT HARVEST

24.4

TOTAL ACIDITY

0.56%

ph

3.56

ALCOHOL

14.4%

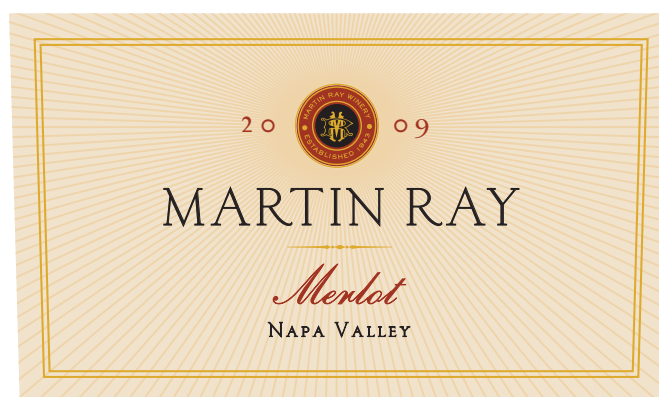
MARTIN RAY WINERY

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MARTINRAYWINERY.COM



Great wine lights a fire in the soul.

—MARTIN RAY

THE VINEYARDS The grapes for our 2009 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 2009 harvest was fantastic throughout California. Abundant spring rains and a temperate growing season produced excellent fruit quality. The beautiful Indian summer weather that followed mild rain in early October allowed the grapes to reach optimum maturity.

WINEMAKER'S NOTES Our 2009 Merlot is picked in small batches and then de-stemmed to open-top tanks with maximum whole berries intact. The fruit is then cold-soaked for three days, fermented until dry and kept at an elevated temperature for one week after it is dry before pressing. This Merlot has a vibrant, deep red color highlighted by aromas of ripe cherry, black currant with overtones of vanilla. Bright at first, with lush, juicy flavors of dark plum and black cherry, layered with spice. Finishes full and long with present, but manageable tannins. Aged for 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.