

Martin Ray

VINEYARDS & WINERY



100% Cabernet Sauvignon
Sonoma County
Brix at Harvest 24.3°
pH 3.75
Total Acidity 5.9 g/L
Alcohol 14.2%
March 2016 Release

2014 SONOMA COUNTY CABERNET SAUVIGNON

THE VINEYARDS

From high above the fog line in the Sonoma Mountains, to the sunny hillside slopes of Dry Creek Valley, and the warm, sundrenched vineyards of the Alexander Valley, we carefully choose and cultivate each lot to fully reflect the amazing potential of Sonoma County as a Cabernet Sauvignon producer. Relative to other areas of the county, our sites enjoy long, warm summer days, and greater swings in temperature as the nights cool off, which makes for especially lush, concentrated wines.

VINTAGE NOTES

The 2014 vintage was challenging due to drought, but produced amazing fruit with smaller clusters and lower yields. An ideal harvest with consistently moderate temperatures and weather conditions, allowed the vines and fruit to stay healthy and maintain concentrated flavors and exceptional quality.

WINEMAKING NOTES

Our Sonoma County Cabernets are picked overnight, or early in the cool mornings, into ½ ton bins, then sorted and destemmed to small, open-top stainless steel tanks. After cold-soaking for four days, we ferment at warm temperatures, then allow for up to two weeks of extended maceration to fully extract and integrate the fruit's flavor and tannins. The must is then gently basket-pressed to 45% new French oak to undergo malolactic fermentation and 14 months of aging.

TASTING NOTES

Our blend of Sonoma County's sub-appellations expresses a wonderful complexity in this wine. A fruit-driven bouquet and palate with notes of wild blackberry, Maraschino cherry, and spicy persimmon is balanced by aromatic cloves, fresh sage leaves, and a touch of butterscotch. This approachable, medium-bodied Cabernet is not to be underestimated with its pronounced tannins and well-integrated oak influence.

FOOD & WINE PAIRING

Pair our elegant, yet approachable Sonoma County Cabernet Sauvignon with a hearty hamburger or meatloaf with garlic mashed potatoes.