



# Martin Ray

2018

**CHARDONNAY**

Mill Station Vineyard

Green Valley of the Russian River Valley

## THE WINE

Mill Station possesses the rare combination of excellent soil, old vines, and ideal cool-climate that consistently produces Chardonnay with finesse. Dating back to the 70's, Martin Ray was one of the first wineries to highlight the stellar Dutton Ranch as a vineyard designate on its label. We continue this long-term partnership today.

## SOURCING

Mill Station Vineyard of Dutton Ranch.

## VINEYARD NOTES

Planted in 1976 to Sebastopol clay loam, this vineyard is comprised of Heritage and Wente clones, with full exposure during the day. Nestled deep in the valley, it sees heavy fog in the morning and cool coastal breezes at night.

## VARIETAL COMPOSITION

100% Chardonnay

## VINTAGE NOTES

From start to finish, 2018 was a very steady season, offering weather that was reminiscent of years prior to drought. Higher than average yields and excellent quality brought about a fruitful harvest beginning in late August.

## WINEMAKING NOTES

Each lot picked individually at peak ripeness. Gently pressed, cold-settled for two days, then racked to 35% new French oak barrels for 10 months. Certain lots see inoculation, while others are natural yeast fermentations

## TASTING NOTES

Exudes lemon creme, Bosc pear, and subtle Tupelo honey, with touches of fresh hulled almond. Honeycrisp apple peel and vibrant mandarin zest continue on the midpalate, layered with sweetgrass and vanilla custard.

## RELEASE DATE

January 2020



BRIX AT HARVEST: 23.7°

pH: 3.45

TOTAL ACIDITY: 6.5 g/L

ALCOHOL: 14.1%