

Martin Ray

VINEYARDS & WINERY

RESERVE

2013 SANTA CRUZ MOUNTAINS CABERNET SAUVIGNON



100% Cabernet Sauvignon
Santa Cruz Mountains
Brix at Harvest 25.4°
pH 3.79
Total Acidity 6.2 g/L
Alcohol 14.8%
October 2015 Release

THE VINEYARDS

Martin Ray Santa Cruz Mountains Cabernet Sauvignon is the union of two distinguished mountaintop vineyards: Fellom Ranch, and our newest addition, Beauregard Vineyards. Beauregard Vineyards is a very small planting on the south face of Ben Lomond Mountain, producing intense fruit from small, compact clusters. Fellom Ranch, located on Monte Bello Ridge, has shallow, stony soils that control vine growth and yield relatively small berries with intense flavors and structure. Both vineyards enjoy morning and evening fog coupled with long growing seasons, which allows the grapes to reach maturity with deep color and concentrated flavors.

VINTAGE NOTES

The 2013 vintage was a winemaker's dream harvest. A mild spring with little rain and a warm summer with cool nights and no heat spikes created a perfect growing season for the grapes. Fruit quality was stellar across the board with clean, well-developed flavors and fully ripe fruit with good acids. One of the fastest harvests in years with overall tonnage up in most varieties.

WINEMAKING NOTES

Small lot fermentations in 4-6 ton open top fermenters with at least thrice daily pump overs for cap management. As with all of our Reserve Cabernet Sauvignons, after finishing primary fermentation, the wine is allowed to sit on its skins for up to a month prior to basket pressing. Aged for 18 months in 55% new French oak.

TASTING NOTES

Often the most distinct of our Reserve Cabernets, our Santa Cruz Cabernet defines itself with dark blackberry bramble, savory curry spices such as turmeric, and aromatic dried tea and tobacco leaves with just a slight hint of eucalyptus. This Cabernet is commonly the most tannic of our Reserves. Coupled with higher natural acidity, this gives it the unique benefit of aging incredibly well. Although there is no lack of fruit and savoriness, the chewy tannins define this mountain Cabernet.

FOOD & WINE PAIRING

Pair alongside grilled veal chop with wild mushrooms and roasted garlic.