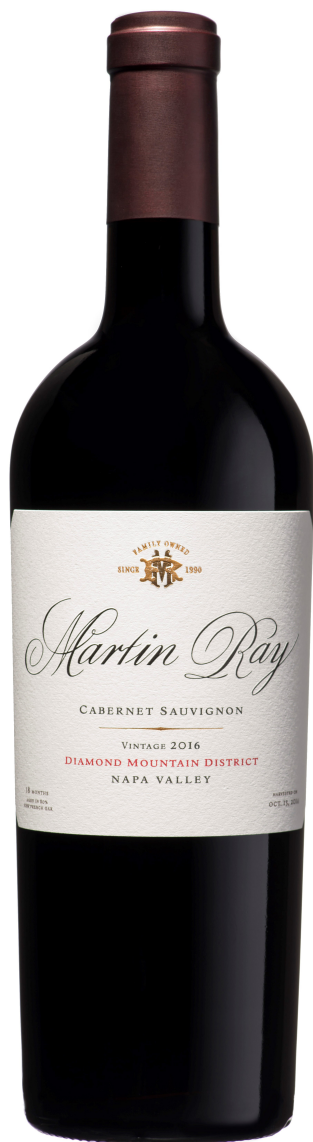


Martin Ray

VINEYARDS & WINERY

RESERVE



100% Cabernet Sauvignon
Diamond Mountain
Brix at Harvest 25.3 °
pH 3.76
Total Acidity 5.4 g/L
Alcohol 14.5%
September 2018 Release

2016 DIAMOND MOUNTAIN CABERNET SAUVIGNON

THE VINEYARDS

We source the grapes for our Martin Ray Diamond Mountain District Cabernet Sauvignon from two very different, but complimentary vineyards: Constant Vineyards on its rugged volcanic soil, and Andrew Geoffrey lower on the mountain with its highly variable silty loam. The vineyards enjoy a climate where mornings are typically brisk and fog-free, while northwesterly winds continually cool the vineyard throughout the long growing season. These unique mountain vineyard sites provide a variety of nutrient-rich soils, superior exposure to sunlight and evening cooling for small, intensely flavored berries and fragrant, flavorful wines.

VINTAGE NOTES

Much to the delight of both grape growers and winemakers, the 2016 vintage carried through from beginning to end, with ideal conditions and ideal results. Long-awaited rainfall during the winter and early spring replenished desperate reservoirs and ground water, easing the concerns generated by several years' worth of drought conditions. The summer was kind, with only a few heat spikes, which then carried over into a true Indian Summer; keeping daytime temperatures above normal, and the mornings foggy and cool throughout the peak month of September, permitting us to take our time in evaluating and calling picks at their optimal maturity. Nature patiently waited for us to bring in our final lots before returning with the rain that has traditionally been the signal for the end of the harvest season.

WINEMAKING NOTES

All contributing lots are fermented in small 4-6 ton open top fermenters with at least thrice daily pump overs for cap management. After the wine has finished fermentation and gone dry, it is allowed to rest on its skins for up to a month before being drained and pressed via the gentle basket press. Aged for 18 months in 80% new French oak.

TASTING NOTES

This monster Cab certainly lives up to its Mountain origins with plush and forward blue fruits of marion berry, blueberry and elderberry. Supported by Diamond Mountain's famous structure and grip, deep notes of cassis lead into herbaceous touches of dried lavender and violet, touches of sage, and a striking, mineral driven backbone. With integrated oak backed by fresh acidity and structured tannins, this wine has the propensity to age very well.