

Ceritas

2013 PETER MARTIN RAY CABERNET SAUVIGNON RELEASE

Dear Friends:

This is our second release of Cabernet Sauvignon from the Peter Martin Ray Vineyard in the Santa Cruz Mountains. We could not be more excited about this wine for several reasons.

First, working with fruit on a year to year basis allows us to better understand a site and our approach in the cellar; in 2013 we reduced the whole cluster usage from 30% to zero resulting in a wine more to our liking. Secondly, our work in the vineyard changed; removal of fruit from short shoots allowed us to mature a more balanced crop from a flavor and chemistry perspective. Lastly, we allowed the fermentation to start at a lower initial temperature resulting in a cooler but much longer fermentation. This produced a wine with longer, silky tannins while keeping aromatics and fruit in place.

The grapes were brought to the winery on September 16th. Weather had been cool in the weeks leading up to the harvest with an occasional warm day here or there. The combination of an early bud break and long growing season produced grapes with great intensity and preserved acidity. Here at Peter Martin Ray, the clonal selection is exclusively Rixford. The Rixford clone was brought over from France in the early 1900's and produces long, loose clusters of tiny berries resulting in deep flavors and refined tannins.

We hope you enjoy this wine for many years to come. Thank you for your continued support. Be well.

John & Phoebe Raytek

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This wine is flat out gorgeous. The palate is supple and nuanced with a total sense of silkiness. Bright amarena cherries, pennyroyal, cigar box spice and white flowers are laced together in a pliant, radiant Cabernet Sauvignon that captures the essence of the vintage and site. The fruit on this wine is so pure and is framed by elements of finesse rather than power. Rose water, mint, fried sage and a hint of white pepper add an element of the exotic to the high-toned, expressive finish.