

Wine Spectator

Eight Cabernets for \$24 or less!

Martin Ray
'Mariage'
NAPA-SONOMA-
MENDOCINO
Cabernet
Sauvignon

87 2000 Martin Ray 'Mariage' Napa-Sonoma-Mendocino Counties Cabernet Sauvignon \$18 Well-crafted, rich and concentrated, with a complex array of currant, mocha, plum and black cherry. Full-bodied and tightly wound, it finishes with a burst of fruit and ripe, firm tannins. Best from 2005 through 2010. From California. 7,000 cases made. — *J.L.*

91 Buehler Cabernet Sauvignon Napa Valley 2001 \$24 Excellent balance, richness and complexity are evident in this ripe, supple young wine. Elegant and polished, its strength lies in its delicacy and finesse, with potent currant, cassis, spice and pretty floral aromatics. On the finish, the flavors are long and persistent. Drink now through 2012. From California. 3,100 cases made. — *J.L.*

89 Concha Y Toro Cabernet Sauvignon Puente Alto Marqués de Casa Concha 2002 \$15 Very solid beam of raspberry and black currant fruit here, caressed by sweet toast, cocoa and smoke notes. Hints of loam and tar on the finish, which is juicy and ripe. Delicious and should age nicely in the short-term as well. Drink now through 2005. From Chile. 20,000 cases imported. — *J.L.*

89 Xanadu Cabernet Sauvignon River 2001 \$19 Supple and open-textured, generous with its ripe black currant and blackberry flavors, finishing with a minty edge and a nudge of pleasant acidity. Drink now through 2008. From Australia. 7,000 cases made. — *H.S.*

88 Pirramimma Cabernet Sauvignon McLaren Vale 2001 \$23 Firm and a bit chunky, but generous with its currant and spicy oak flavors, which linger nicely. Drink now through 2009. From Australia. 4,000 cases made. — *H.S.*

88 Red Knot Cabernet Sauvignon McLaren Vale 2002 \$11 Supple, velvety style glows with lovely blueberry and currant flavors, wrapped in a light veil of ultra fine tannins, finishing with spice and coffee notes. Drink now through 2010. From Australia. 4,400 cases made. — *H.S.*

87 Hogue Cabernet Sauvignon Columbia Valley 2002 \$10 Crisp and generous, with solid blackberry and cherry flavors, lingering on the finish. Drink now through 2007. From Washington. 15,900 cases made. — *H.S.*

87 Wirra Wirra Church Block McLaren Vale 2002 \$16 Dense, smooth and packed with blackberry, cherry and smoky spice flavors, easing up a bit fast on the finish, but it's a generous mouthful. Cabernet Sauvignon, Shiraz and Merlot. Drink now through 2008. From Australia. 5,000 cases imported. — *H.S.*

Weekly Wine Spectator On-Line
"Smart Buy" Selections