

**2012 Martha Clara Vineyards Cabernet Franc  
"Island Series"**

The 2012 Cabernet Franc "Island Series" also has 10% Merlot and 5% Cabernet Sauvignon. It was aged in a mixture of French (80%) and Hungarian (20%) oak; 15% each of new, second-year and third-year; the rest older. It comes in at 12% alcohol. Straightforward and not showing a lot of mid-palate concentration, this is a lighter-styled Cab Franc that shows some vibrancy in its youth. There is not much concentration or a lot of Cab Franc character, but it drinks nicely enough as a house pour. It should probably be drunk young for best results. It shows just fine now. There were 672 cases produced.

Some of the wines here are designated as the winery's "Island Series," although that is not so clear from reading the labels. These are meant to reference a reasonably priced entry level to the winery's grapes, said winemaker and

- Mark Squires (June, 2015)

Copyright 2015, The Wine Advocate, Inc. - Reprinted with permission

**2012 Martha Clara Vineyards Merlot "Island  
Series"**

The 2012 Merlot "Island Series" also has less than 3% combined of Cabernet Sauvignon and Cabernet Franc. It was all aged for 12 months in a mixture of French (70%), American (15%) and Hungarian (15%) oak barriques. It comes in at 12.5% alcohol. Friendly and tasty, this shows a little structure and brightness, with flavor on the finish. Its elegance is attractive. Drink it now and over the next few years, although it may hold longer.

Some of the wines here are designated as the winery's "Island Series," although that is not so clear from reading the labels. These are meant to reference a reasonably priced entry level to the winery's grapes, said winemaker and General Manager Juan Eduardo Micieli-Martinez. They have red and white labels.

- Mark Squires (June, 2015)

Copyright 2015, The Wine Advocate, Inc. - Reprinted with permission

**2013 Martha Clara Vineyards Riesling Estate  
Reserve**

The 2013 Riesling Estate Reserve is unoaked and has 13 grams per liter of residual sugar. It comes in at just 11.5% alcohol. It's a perfect summer sipper. Light and off-dry, this wine has a touch of sugar on the end, but nice acidity to match it. There's not a lot of steel, focus or tension, though. It is more of a friendly puppy that is hard to ignore, yet it does feel fresh and lively, too. It will likely be at its best when young and fresh, but it can hold a few years if you must. There were 806 cases produced.

Some of the wines here are designated as the winery's "Island Series," although that is not so clear from reading the labels. These are meant to reference a reasonably priced entry level to the winery's grapes, said winemaker and General Manager Juan Eduardo Micieli-Martinez. They have red and white labels.

- Mark Squires (June, 2015)

Copyright 2015, The Wine Advocate, Inc. - Reprinted with permission

**2012 Martha Clara Vineyards Merlot Estate  
Reserve**

The 2012 Merlot Estate Reserve was aged in French (60%), American (35%) and Hungarian oak (20%); only 20% new, the rest used. It comes in at 13% alcohol. The best of the winery's reds this issue, this bottling feels more concentrated and coats the palate better. It has some of the same ideas as its siblings--nice balance, a fresh feel and approachability. Despite the little bit of extra everything, this, too, will be early maturing. If I had a quibble, it is that the wine is not likely to reward cellaring. It is drinking fairly well now and a year or two from now it should be about as good as it gets. It should hold nicely for several years thereafter. It is certainly impressive now, though, with finesse and elegance. It is worth leaning up on this just now. There were 479 cases produced.

Some of the wines here are designated as the Wi...

- Mark Squires (June, 2015)

Copyright 2015, The Wine Advocate, Inc. - Reprinted with permission

**2012 Martha Clara Vineyards Chardonnay  
Estate Reserve**

The 2012 Chardonnay Estate Reserve was aged in French (85%) and Hungarian (15%) oak for nine months. Dry, it comes in at 12.5% alcohol. This tastes rather clean, although the hints of caramel on the edge show up. Still, it is mostly fresh, crisp and moderately steely for its type. It is not the most concentrated Chardonnay, to be sure, but it is pretty nice at the price point and in its style. Drink it young for best results, however long it theoretically lasts. There were 755 cases produced.

Some of the wines here are designated as the winery's "Island Series," although that is not so clear from reading the labels. These are meant to reference a reasonably priced entry level to the winery's grapes, said winemaker and General Manager Juan Eduardo Micieli-Martinez. They have red and white labels.

- Mark Squires (June, 2015)

**2012 Martha Clara Vineyards Northville**

The 2012 Northville is a red blend of 47% Merlot, 15% Syrah, 13% Cabernet Franc, 13% Malbec, 7% Petit Verdot and 5% Cabernet Sauvignon. It was aged for 16 months in a mixture of French (70%), American (20%) and Hungarian (10%) oak. It comes in at 13.5% alcohol. Earthy, focused and down-to-earth, this elegant blend has some complexity and good fruit on the finish. The fruit is supported by reasonable structure, giving the wine a little grip and a brighter feel. It's an early maturing red that can be drunk right now. There were 670 cases produced.

Some of the wines here are designated as the winery's "Island Series," although that is not so clear from reading the labels. These are meant to reference a reasonably priced entry level to the winery's grapes, said winemaker and General Manager Juan Eduardo Micieli-Martinez. They have red and ...

- Mark Squires (June, 2015)