



MissionBell

The Story: Martini & Prati Wine Tanks

Established in 1881 as the Twin Fir Winery, the historic site is distinguished as one of the oldest wineries in continuous operation in California. In 1902, Rafael Martini – an Italian immigrant - purchased the winery and just eight years later passed the business onto his sons, Narchiso and Frank Martini. The sons continued to produce the wines that made the winery famous throughout Northern California. In 1950, Enrico Prati – long associated with the Italian Swiss Colony - joined the Martinis and formed the Martini & Prati label. For five generations, the winery prospered and in 2003, they decided to sell the business to Martin Ray Winery.

For many years, the Martini & Prati Winery used large Redwood tanks to store, ferment, and age their wines. Each tank held 20-60 thousand gallons of wine, reached up to 19 feet tall and 20 feet wide. These tanks would hold wine for up to two years before it was bottled.

Currently, many wineries are transitioning from old Redwood tanks to stainless steel tanks, with economics as the main driver. The stainless steel tanks provide wine-makers with more control over flavor and enable them to accelerate the aging process. This change in the wine industry has resulted in the availability of beautiful old growth Redwood wine staves old growth Douglas fir beams that come from the underpinnings of the tanks.

Mission Bell is exclusively sourcing the Reclaimed Redwood and Douglas Fir from the Martini & Prati Winery estate and making them available for new projects looking to preserve California's wine history and have a taste for a unique story!



FSC® Recycled 100%

Material #: MP-RW & MP-DF

Species: Redwood (*Sequoia Sempervirens*)

Douglas Fir (*Pseudotsuga Menziesii*)

