The Martin boundary of a Riemannian domain is a very precise way of compactifying the domain using potential theory of the Laplacian. So precise that not much is known. I'll try to give some background, and I'll present a WIP partial result with Jianguo Cao and Huijun Fan about the case of a simply connected nonpositively curved manifold having a cocompact group of isometries and at least one isometry with a hyperbolic axis (Ballmann rank one manifolds).