

BLACKBIRD VINEYARDS

ILLUSTRATION

Artisanal producer of Pomerol-inspired wines

WINEMAKER: *Aaron Pott*

PRESIDENT: *Paul Leary*

PROPRIETOR: *Michael Polenske*

2008 ILLUSTRATION NAPA VALLEY PROPRIETARY RED WINE

The 2008 Illustration offers intense aromatics of blackberry, black licorice, and dark chocolate. The rich and balanced mid-palate is rounded out with plush flavors of cherry, toffee, and cocoa powder. The finish possesses good length with dense, velvety tannins leading to a succulent tiramisu finish. Illustration is optimal to drink after decanting or can be laid down to develop further with time in the bottle. Blackbird's 2008 vintage wines offer incredible elegance and fruit concentration imparted by the low-yielding, high-quality Napa Valley growing season.

BLEND:	<i>75% Merlot - 23% Cabernet Franc - 2% Cabernet Sauvignon</i>
HARVEST:	<i>October, 2008</i>
RELEASE:	<i>Spring, 2011</i>
BARREL REGIME:	<i>20 months in French Oak barrels - 70% new, 30% seasoned</i>
PH:	<i>3.75</i>
TOTAL ACIDITY:	<i>0.62</i>
ALCOHOL:	<i>14.5%</i>
PRODUCTION:	<i>481 cases</i>
OPTIMUM DRINKING:	<i>2011 - 2025</i>
PRICE:	<i>\$90.00</i>



THE BLACKBIRD VINEYARD

APPELLATION:	<i>Oak Knoll District of Napa Valley</i>
VINEYARD SIZE:	<i>10 Acres</i>
VINES:	<i>5,717 planted in 1997</i>
TOPOGRAPHY:	<i>Valley Floor</i>
VARIETAL:	<i>Merlot</i>
CLONE:	<i>3</i>
ROOT STOCK:	<i>110R</i>

ILLUSTRATION

Illustration represents the core – the heart – of Blackbird Vineyards. Every element of Blackbird's multi-faceted wine portfolio draws inspiration from this singular, Pomerol-inspired Merlot. It is an undiluted illustration of the passion, time and concentration invested in creating elegant, multi-layered wines. Illustration challenges the notion that Cabernet Sauvignon is the only age-worthy red wine crafted in the Napa Valley.

The heart is full of infinite possibilities...

Blackbird Vineyards
1330 Oak Knoll Avenue, Napa, CA 94558
(707) 252-4444 tel • (707) 252-9999 fax
www.blackbirdvineyards.com

