BLACKBIRD VINEYARDS

ILLUSTRATION

WINEMAKER: *Aaron Pott*

2016 ILLUSTRATION NAPA VALLEY PROPRIETARY RED WINE

With inviting aromas of coffee, iris, clove, and shitake mushrooms, Illustration is the most luxurious wine in the Blackbird portfolio. The mouthfeel offers density with integrated tanins and a long finish of violets, cocoa, and plum. The wine is gorgeous and will continue to develop over the next fiften years with time in the cellar.

BLEND:	*78% Merlot - 21% Cabernet Franc - 1% Cabernet Sauvignon*
HARVEST:	*Fall 2016*
RELEASE:	*Spring 2019*
BARREL REGIME:	*21 months in French oak barrels - 75% new, 25% seasoned*
ALCOHOL:	*14.1%*
PRODUCTION:	*20 barrels*
OPTIMUM DRINKING:	*2019- 2035*
PRICE:	*$135.00 per 750ml bottle*

VINEYARDS

Each wine in the portfolio is a true example of Blackbird's ongoing commitment to quality by partnering with a selection of Napa Valley's most prestigious vineyards.

Blackbird Vineyard - *Located in the Oak Knoll District, Blackbird's estate vineyard, with clay soils underlaid by gravel, is an ideal site for Merlot. The region's cool nights preserve acidity in the fruit, providing natural balance.*

Hudson Vineyard - *Perched on a rolling hillside in the cool climate of Carneros, the Hudson Vineyard is a high-quality fruit source for Merlot, Cabernet Franc, and Cabernet Sauvignon.*

Shifflett Vineyard - *Located in Yountville, the climate is moderate with a foggy marine influence contributing to cool summer mornings and mild afternoons. The gravelly soil is ideal for Merlot and Cabernet Franc.*

Stagecoach Vineyard - *Atop the Vaca Mountains south of Pritchard Hill, the rocky, volcanic terroir of the Stagecoach Vineyard produces intense Merlot and Cabernet Franc.*

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Illustration represents the core of Blackbird Vineyards. Every element of its multi-faceted wine portfolio draws inspiration from this principally Merlot composition. Illustration challenges the notion that Cabernet Sauvignon is the only age-worthy red wine crafted in Napa Valley.

The heart is full of infinite possibilities...

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