BLACKBIRD VINEYARDS

CONTRARIAN

WINEMAKER: *Aaron Pott*

2022 CONTRARIAN PROPRIETARY RED WINE

'Black licorice, blackberry jam, cedar and tobacco, porcini, plum, mint, and cocoa. Fat attack with great richness and little acidity, the tannins here are soft and supple, making this a Cabernet Sauvignon for near-term drinking. The finish has good length of cedar, tobacco, dark cocoa powder, and blackberry that lasts for a long time.' -Aaron Pott, Winemaker

"Aromas of blackcurrants, tea leaves, dried herbs, and dark chocolate. The palate is full-bodied with finely integrated tannins and bright acidity, giving flavors of mulberry bush and tobacco. A well-balanced and refined blend" -James Suckling, 95 pts

BLEND:	87.5% Cabernet Sauvigon, 5.5% Cabernet Franc, 5% Merlot, 2% Petit Verdot
HARVEST:	Fall 2022
RELEASE:	Fall 2025
BARREL REGIME:	21 months in French oak barrels: 50% new, 50% seasoned
ALCOHOL:	14.2%
OPTIMUM DRINKING:	2025-2040
FORMAT:	750ml, 1L
PRODUCTION:	11 Barrels

VINEYARDS

Each wine in the portfolio is a true example of Blackbirds ongoing commitment to quality by partnering with a selection of Napas finest vineyards.

FONTANELLA VINEYARD - *Where the heights of Mt. Veeder meet the cold climate of Carneros. This organically farmed vineyard is run by Jeff and Karen Fontanella. This property is composed of Fagan Series loam that produces wine of intense deep, dark color. These wines are incredibly tannic as youngsters, but with age produce wines that can only be described as ethereal.*

MERRYVALE VINEYARD - *From the Profile vineyard perched above St. Helena on Conn Valley Road. The vineyard is composed of the coveted Forward and Kidd series soils that produce wines of great fruit intensity, weight, and complexity.*

STAGECOACH VINEYARD - *Atop the Vaca Mountains south of Pritchard Hill, the rocky, volcanic terroir of the Stagecoach Vineyard produces intense Merlot and Cabernet Franc. We source Cabernet Sauvignon, Cabernet Franc, and Merlot from here. Basaltic rock that is very iron-rich creates wines of great structure. Our highest vineyards on this property soar to 2400 feet in altitude.*

THE BIRDS NEST - *High altitude organically farmed vineyard composed of thin loamy soils of volcanic origin. These well-drained vineyards command a view of Lake Hennessy and the Napa Valley beyond. The natural moderating influence of the lake assures the ideal ripeness of these wines.*

CONTRARIAN

Contrarian flies in the face of our own conventions. Emboldened by Cabernet Sauvignon, Contrarian possesses Blackbird's signature aromatic richness alongside bold tannins that draw a striking contrast to the rest of the flock.

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www.blackbirdvineyards.com