BLACKBIRD VINEYARDS

ILLUSTRATION

WINEMAKER: *Aaron Pott*

2022 ILLUSTRATION PROPRIETARY RED WINE

"Plum, cherry, iris, tobacco, pastry crust, and fresh fig. Very fruit-forward attack with cherries, plum, and black licorice with supple tannins, nice weight and fat on the mid-palate with baking spices and more cherry and plum." - Aaron Pott, Winemaker

"The palate is full-bodied with firmly framed tannins and balanced acidity, giving flavors of blackberry compote, blueberry bush, and mocha. A well-balanced blend." - James Suckling, 95 pts.

BLEND:	75% Merlot, 20% Cabernet Franc, 5% Cabernet Sauvignon
HARVEST:	Fall 2022
RELEASE:	Fall 2025
BARREL REGIME:	21 months in French Oak Barrels, 50% new 50% seasoned
ALCOHOL:	14.9%
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.

SHIFFLETT VINEYARD - *A steep hillside vineyard in Yountville facing into the southeast. Great exposure in a cold region. Beautiful Cabernet Franc from old heritage clones creates wines of sculpted beauty and finesse.*

STAR VINEYARD - *Located in the heart of the Rutherford appellation, Star Vineyard gets wonderful sun exposure, which creates powerful Cabernet Sauvignon, Cabernet Franc, and Merlot.*

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

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.*

BLACKBIRD NAMESAKE 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.*

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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.

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