



BLACKBIRD VINEYARDS

EDITORIAL REVIEWS

2007 VINTAGE

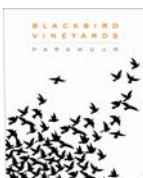


Illustration Napa Valley Proprietary Red Wine

- 97 points – *Wine Enthusiast*, February, 2010
- 92 points – Robert Parker's *The Wine Advocate*, Issue #186, December, 2009
- 91 points – *Vinfolio*, November 2, 2009
- 9.5/10 points – *Vinography*, October 2, 2009
- 92 points – Doug Wilder's *The Purely Domestic Wine Blog*, October 2, 2009

Paramour Napa Valley Proprietary Red Wine

- 91 points – *Stephen Tanzer's International Wine Cellar*, Issue 150, May/June, 2010
- 91 points – *Wine & Spirits*, June, 2010
- 95 points – *Wine Enthusiast*, February, 2010
- 93+ points – Robert Parker's *The Wine Advocate*, Issue #186, December, 2009
- 93 points – *Vinfolio*, November 2, 2009
- 93 points – *Ken's Wine Guide*, October 20, 2009
- 9.5/10 points – *Vinography*, October 2, 2009



Contrarian Napa Valley Proprietary Red Wine

- 91 points – *Stephen Tanzer's International Wine Cellar*, Issue 150, May/June, 2010
- 93 points – *Wine Enthusiast*, February, 2010
- 94 points – Robert Parker's *The Wine Advocate*, Issue #186, December, 2009
- 90 points – *Ken's Wine Guide*, November 26, 2009
- 90 points – *Vinfolio*, November 2, 2009
- 9.5/10 points – *Vinography*, October 2, 2009



Arise Napa Valley Proprietary Red Wine

- 90 points – *Stephen Tanzer's International Wine Cellar*, Issue 150, May/June, 2010
- 93 points – *Wine Enthusiast*, February, 2010
- 92 points – Robert Parker's *The Wine Advocate*, Issue #186, December, 2009
- 91 points – *Wine Spectator Insider Edition*, December 9, 2009
- 9/10 points – *Vinography*, October 2, 2009

2006 VINTAGE



Illustration Napa Valley Proprietary Red Wine

- 91 points – Robert Parker's *The Wine Advocate*, Issue #186, December, 2009
- 93 points – Doug Wilder's *The Purely Domestic Wine Blog*, October 2, 2009
- 90 points – *Connoisseurs' Guide to California Wine*, September, 2009
- 94 points – *Vinfolio*, March 12, 2009
- 90 points – *Wine Spectator Online*, November 30, 2008
- 9.5 points/10 – Alder Yarrow's *Vinography.com*, October 16, 2008



Paramour Napa Valley Proprietary Red Wine

- 93 points – Doug Wilder's *The Purely Domestic Wine Blog*, October 2, 2009
- 94 points – *Vinfolio*, March 12, 2009
- 90 points – *Wine Spectator*, August 31, 2009

Contrarian Napa Valley Proprietary Red Wine

- 92 points – Robert Parker's *The Wine Advocate*, Issue #186, December, 2009
- 92 points – Doug Wilder's *The Purely Domestic Wine Blog*, October 2, 2009



Arise Napa Valley Proprietary Red Wine

- 91 points – Robert Parker's *The Wine Advocate*, Issue #186, December, 2009
- 93 points – *Connoisseurs' Guide to California Wine*, September, 2009
- 91 points – *Wine Spectator Online*, July 1, 2009



**BLACKBIRD
VINEYARDS**
EDITORIAL COMMENTARIES

2009 ARTICLES



Rosewood Magazine, Influentials, May, 2009

"In Napa Valley, where many winemakers go from profitable wine making to art collecting, Michael Polenske, the valley's most recent vintner turned gallerist, is an exception..."

Sophisticated Living, The Business of Leisure, April 16, 2010

"Blackbird Vineyards is one of the many outstanding vintners participating in the Lexington Cancer Foundation's 2010 wine auction (Thursday, April 29) at Keeneland."

San Francisco Chronicle, Michael Polenske's Blackbird, December 23, 2009

"After making his fortune teaching others how to build theirs, Michael Polenske quit the world of financial planning to pursue his dream of becoming a Napa Valley vintner..."

Chicago Tribune, Seasonal Wine Splurges, December 22, 2009

2007 Blackbird Vineyards Contrarian: ★ ★ ★

Playboy, Grape Expectations, October 27, 2009

"Napa is an international standard bearer for cabernet sauvignon, but Blackbird is hell-bent on putting NoCal merlot on the map..."

Robb Report, 100 Perfect Pours, October 2009

"Renowned for its miraculously complex Merlot-based wine, Blackbird Vineyards has historically flouted Napa Valley tradition by emphasizing red Bordeaux varietals..."

Luxury Las Vegas, May 2009

"Its name derived from the French patois for Merlot, 'Little Blackbird'. Appropriately, their vineyard in the Oak Knoll District is planted to Merlot, and their wine style reflects Pomerol wines..."



2008 ARTICLES

Men's Journal, December 2008—Best Red under \$100—2006 Illustration Proprietary Red Wine

"It's the first American merlot with the flavor and complexity of the great French Bordeaux..."

Robb Report, November 2008—101 Fabulous Fermentations

"These brilliant bottles are guaranteed to please the crankiest connoisseur..."

Travel + Leisure GOLF, August 2008

"One of the more impressive newcomers has been a merlot-dominated blend from Blackbird Vineyards..."

Sommelier Journal, August 2008

"With Merlot overdue for a return to prominence, it looks like it's time for this little Blackbird to fly."

Robb Report, June 2008—Best of the Best

"His releases stand among Napa's most beautifully articulated boutique wines..."

Vanity Fair, February 2008

"...released its acclaimed 2005 Napa Valley Proprietary Red at a V.I.P. dinner, hosted by CHANEL..."



2007 ARTICLES

Town & Country, November 2007

"Paramour" Napa Valley Proprietary Red Wine featured in the "Holiday Gift Guide for the Home."

Forbes, October 2007

"2005 Napa Valley Proprietary Red Wine... Round, well-balanced and juicy, this wine makes a perfect gift..."

Vinography: A Wine Blog, Alder Yarrow, June 2007

"Wines with a score of 9.5—2005 Blackbird Vineyards Bordeaux Blend, Napa Valley..."

Bloomberg News, Elin McCoy, May 2007

"Among Napa's New Names, Blackbird Vineyards is Must-Have Merlot."

Food & Wine, Ray Isle, April 2007

"After only two vintages, the wine has garnered substantial acclaim..."

