

BLACKBIRD VINEYARDS

ILLUSTRATION

Artisanal producer of Pomerol inspired wines

WINEMAKER: *Aaron Pott*

CONSULTING WINEMAKER: *Sarah Gott*

PROPRIETOR: *Michael Polenske*

2006 ILLUSTRATION NAPA VALLEY PROPRIETARY RED WINE

Optimal with decanting, this elegant, full-bodied wine unfolds with aromatic notes of black cherry, toffee, cocoa powder, iris flower, and subtle leather. Upon entry, the rich, focused core, with its boastful concentration, leads to intense flavors of brambled berries and roasted meat. Framed by persistent acidity and an elegant structure, the finish illustrates the wine's longevity.

BLEND:	<i>86% Merlot - 11% Cabernet Franc - 3% Cabernet Sauvignon</i>
HARVEST:	<i>October 12, 2006</i>
RELEASE:	<i>Fall 2008</i>
BARREL REGIME:	<i>20 months in French Oak barrels - 82% new, 18% seasoned</i>
PH:	<i>3.63%</i>
TOTAL ACIDITY:	<i>0.55</i>
ALCOHOL:	<i>14.5%</i>
	<i>Unfiltered and Unfined</i>
PRODUCTION:	<i>1,195 cases</i>
OPTIMUM DRINKING:	<i>2008 - 2020</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...

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