BLACKBIRD VINEYARDS

2019 Contrarian

Accolades

A blend of 87% Cabernet Sauvignon, 7% Cabernet Franc and 13% Merlot, the 2019 Contrarian Proprietary Red is cedary but ripe, filled with black cherries and cassis, with just a hint of licorice. It's full-bodied and rich without being heavy, ending with notes of dark chocolate and loam on the long, velvety finish. Nearly approachable already, it should drink well for close to two decades.

96 Points Wine Advocate

Blackcurrant, black licorice and blueberry. Very pure cabernet sauvignon aromas. Mushroom and forest floor, too. Pops out of the glass! Full-bodied with chewy, polished tannins that show wonderful vivacity. Energetic and fresh at the end. Needs a few years to come together. Drink after 2026.

96 Points James Suckling

The 2019 Contrarian is a huge, dense wine. A blast of sweet dark cherry, plum, spice, new leather and chocolate give the 2019 its immediate, bold personality. This extroverted, plush Cabernet Sauvignon-based red packs plenty of punch. Dried herbs, lavender, chocolate and spice linger.

95 Points Antonio Galloni of Vinous

I also loved the 2019 Contrarian Proprietary Red, a blend of 87% Cabernet Sauvignon, 7% Cabernet Franc, and the rest Merlot. It has a deep purple color as well as a perfumed bouquet of ripe dark berry fruits (currants, blackberries) as well as smoked earth, graphite, and truffle. Medium to full-bodied, balanced, and seamless, it has enough tannins to warrant 4-5 years of bottle age and will keep for two decades.

94+ Points Jeb Dunnuck

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