



**MERLO FAMILY**  
ESTATE VINEYARDS

## Blackbird Red Blend

*Trinity, California*



### Vineyards and Growing Season:

The Merlo Family Vineyards are located on the riverbanks of the wild and scenic South Fork of the Trinity River. Surrounded by 8000 ft. mountains on all sides, the vineyards are higher than most California vineyards, at an elevation of 1,250 feet. The valley floor consists of alluvial soil, allowing for excellent drainage and producing elegant yet complex flavors. The surrounding hillsides are composed of shallow native clay, which helps to create bold, well-structured wines. The growing season is three to four weeks later than that of Napa or Sonoma, allowing for slower ripening and increased hang time creating full, concentrated flavors without over ripening or depleting the natural acids.

### Tasting Notes:

Blackbird is the name for our Mediterranean style red blend. Half Syrah and half Zinfandel, this well-balanced wine offers notes of bursting blackberry, black cherry, chocolate, black olive, prune, and mission fig. The palate is generously coated with elegant tannin texture and modest acidity.

### Enology:

**Composition:** 50% Syrah / 50% Zinfandel

**Aging:** French & American Oak, 14 months

**pH:** 3.52      **TA:** 6.8 Gr/Lt.      **ALC:** 14.2%

**Production:** 1200 cases      **Release:** Feb 2024