



Girard

2019 MIXED BLACKS
NAPA VALLEY

VINTAGE NOTES

The year started out with ample rainfall which kept the soils moist and cool into spring. Summer was marked by warm, even daytime temperatures with few extreme heat spikes. The opportune weather conditions continued into late summer and fall. The harvest was of average volume, if not slightly below average and the fruit quality was exceptional; allowing us to craft wines with fresh acidity, texture, structure and finesse.

VINEYARD NOTES

The fruit for this wine was sourced primarily from the Godward Vineyard in Calistoga, where 100+ year old head-pruned vines of different grape varieties are interplanted to create a true “field blend.” This uniquely “low-tech” or “throwback” style of farming can be unpredictable, requires a keen eye, and is increasingly rare in the Napa Valley. We bottle this wine as a nod to California’s wine growing heritage, and the field blends it first produced.

TASTING NOTES

This ruby-purple elixir stains the glass and exudes equally intense aromas of ripe blackberry, black plum skin and hints of black licorice. The palate displays rich flavors of black currant, jammy berries and pastry flavors with essences of blood orange and cranberry interplaying with delicate oak-derived spices. Firm, lush tannins and dusty earth minerality come together for a lingering finish.

ABOUT THIS WINE

The primary source of our Mixed Blacks field blend comes from a vineyard in Calistoga planted at the turn of the 20th Century, and is our homage to California’s winegrowing heritage; when immigrants first settled here, they brought with them vine cuttings from their villages and planted what would later become known as “field blends”. These vineyards with humble origins produced wines which were to be shared among family and traded with neighbors as a part of a life well-lived.

VARIETAL COMPOSITION Field Blend believed to include Zinfandel, Petite Sirah, Syrah, Grenache, and Mourvèdre

APPELLATION Napa Valley | **AGING** 16 months in Fusion barrels comprised of French, American and Hungarian oak, 45% new

ALCOHOL 15% | **TA** 5.6 g/L | **pH** 3.58 | **RS** 1.3 g/L | **PRODUCTION** 1,000 cases