



Vinous

97 Points

Reviewed by
Antonio Galloni

Drink Date
2028 – 2043

The 2023 Proprietary Red is a total stunner. Dark, layered and beguiling, the 2023 is super impressive from start to finish. The blend is about equal parts Cabernet Sauvignon and Cabernet Franc, an approach that works quite well. Silky tannins give this rich, extravagant wine a seamless feel that is impossible to miss. I won't be surprised if the Proprietary Red becomes the flagship bottling here over time. Magnificent.

Proprietors Christine O'Sullivan and Jim Bean continue to push the envelope of quality even farther at Brand. Their 2023s are outstanding wines that represent an inflection point for the estate. The 2023s were made by Philippe Melka then blended and finished by new winemaker Graeme MacDonald. The 2024s, which I tasted from barrel, are from a warmer vintage yet reflect an added kick of freshness and vibrancy MacDonald has brought to the wines. There's certainly a lot to look forward to here. O'Sullivan and Bean are among the most ambitious owners in Napa Valley today.

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