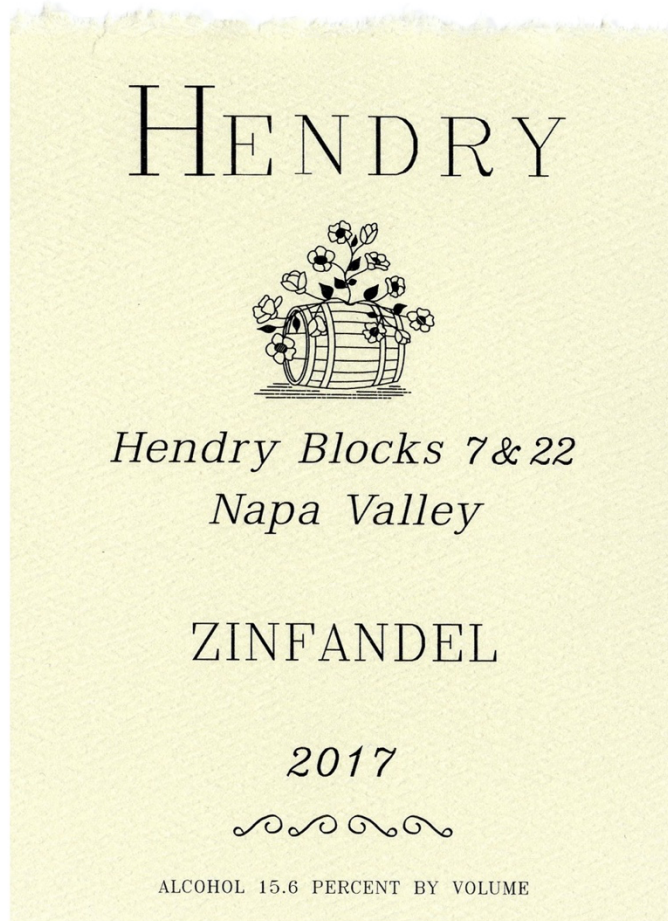


YEAR'S BEST ZINFANDEL AND MIXED BLACKS



95 These two blocks of zinfandel, in the benchlands at the base of Mount Veeder, were both planted to clone 2; the vines in Block 7 date to 1975 and to 1995 in Block 22. It's interesting to taste this side-by-side with Block 28 (also recommended here), comparing fruit from a mass selection of old vines with a clonal planting. Block 28 may be more complex in its tannins; the wine from Blocks 7 & 22 may be more comforting and delicious, its complexity held in a floral scent, like pollen collected in a beehive. Or floral dark chocolate, a richness that smooths the tannins and their mineral spikes of power. Cellar both wines and you may find yourself grabbing one or the other, depending on your mood. (1,294 cases)

—Joshua Greene June 2021 Print Edition