



CARMEL VALLEY RANCH

**Master Falconer**  
**ANTONIO BALESTRERI**

Antonio, our “flightiest” wildlife expert, discovered falconry at an early age and has been taking his passion to new heights ever since. With a degree in Wildlife Management, and as one of only a handful of people in California to possess a Falconry Education Permit, Antonio helps guests experience the thrill of bonding with a bird of prey, releasing it, and then watching it return of its own free will. “It’s an amazing experience that still excites me,” he says. “More importantly, I get to show how special these birds are and why they need to be protected.”