

# 2018 CALDEIRA MERLOT

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## COOMBSVILLE, NAPA VALLEY, CALIFORNIA



### THE WINE:

This micro production wine was created from a three barrel selection hand picked by Brendan Quigley. The wine is sourced entirely from the Caldwell Estate Vineyard in Coombsville, Napa and made by winemaker Marc Gagnon. The blend is 91% Merlot from clone #181, 3% Cabernet Sauvignon, 3% Cabernet Franc from Clone #214 and 3% Carmenere. The wine was aged for 16 months in 33% new French oak. There were 65 cases made, approximately 800 bottles. The 2018 vintage for Napa Valley, specifically Coombsville, was very special; large volume and superior quality.

### THE ESTATE:

Caldeira is the French term for a crater formed by the eruption and subsequent collapse of the mouth of a volcano. The Coombsville AVA in Napa Valley owes much of its unique terroir to this geologic event. Caldeira wines represent the partnership between Caldwell vineyards and Quigley Fine Wines to showcase small production wines from the unique terroir of Coombsville. Caldwell Vineyard, the source of the fruit for this wine, is planted with specific clones that thrive in this area of Napa Valley. John Caldwell, the owner of Caldwell Vineyards is famous in the Napa Valley wine world, known as “The Smuggler” because of his legendary efforts to bring back rare and sought after clones from Bordeaux to be planted in Napa. His winery and vineyards are truly iconic pieces of Napa Valley history.

### TASTING NOTES:

**Color:** glowing purple with ruby flashes

**Aromas:** red current, mocha, cedary oak and hints of graphite

**Flavor & Texture:** creamy and layered with black and red plums, subtle notes of crushed stones and dark chocolate

**Food Pairing:** filet mignon with sautéed mushrooms

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