

2019 Caldeira Merlot

Coombsville, Napa Valley, California



The Wine:

This micro production wine was created from a four-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 88% Merlot from clone #181, 9% Petite verdot and 3% Cabernet Sauvignon. The wine was aged for 18 months in 33% new French oak. There were 98 cases made, approximately 1150 bottles. The 2019 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 these wines, 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. The wines are made by Marc Gagnon.

Tasting Notes:

Color: violet-ruby

Aromas: red plums, cocoa powder, espresso bean and hints of wildflower

Flavor & Texture: creamy and complex with ripe blue fruits, dark chocolate and loamy earth

Food Pairing: filet mignon with sautéed Portabella mushrooms

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