

2019
LEFT BANK
RED

CALDWELL
(38° 17' N. Latitude, 122° 14' W. Longitude)

SOCIETY OF SMUGGLERS

2019 LEFT BANK by Caldwell, Napa Valley

VINTAGE: Eleventh

COMPOSITION: 88% Cabernet Sauvignon
6% Merlot, 3% Malbec, 3% Petit Verdot

APPELLATION: Coombsville AVA, Napa Valley, CA

VINEYARD: Caldwell Vineyard, Kreuzer Vineyard

OPTIMAL DRINKING PERIOD: Now – 18 Years

PRODUCTION: 74 Cases

PRICE: \$105 / 750ml SOS Only

VINEYARD BLOCKS:
Caldwell 9, 11, 15, 17, 20 and 8B

YIELD: 3.0 Tons per Acre on Average

AVERAGE VINE AGE: 34 Years

GRAPE VARIETIES: See Composition

CLONES: Multiple

ROOTSTOCK: 3309 and 5C

HARVEST DATES: Multiple

VINTAGE SUMMARY: The 2019 growing season, much like 2018, was ideal for almost every varietal, clone, rootstock, and age group of vine. The growing season started very, very late, which risked being devastatingly short. However, the season turned out magically long, temperate, and devoid of rain and heat spikes during critical phenological ripening steps. Mother Nature provided winemakers and vineyard managers very little stress, while perfectly stressing the fruit. 2019 will go down in history as one of the highest quality vintages of all time. Every wine in our lineup has a backbone of structure, power, and verve but is strongly defined by varietal purity and elegance.

FERMENTATION VESSEL: Stainless Steel

YEAST: Multiple

ML BACTERIA: Multiple

WOOD ORIGIN: New French Oak (Jupilles, Bercé)

AGING: 100% French Oak, 75% New, for 20 Months

FINING: None

FILTERING: Unfiltered

ALCOHOL: 15.1%

BOTTLED ON: April 28th, 2021

WINEMAKER'S TASTING NOTES: As our homage to the West side of Bordeaux, I aim to blend the Caldwell Left Bank every year to retain a certain minerality and austere youthful intensity that I always find in between the wines of Pessac-Leognan and Pauillac. The predominantly Cabernet Sauvignon blend is from some of our oldest vines, which provide some restraint, and what John and I like to call a "Bordeaux" feel. A perfect balance between classic Caldwell electric blue fruits, dark cocoa, and oceanic minerality – the 2019 Left Bank drink incredibly well now but will show insane depth of character with age.