

2018 SIGNATURE GOLD

BY CALDWELL, NAPA VALLEY

Vintage:	Fourteenth
Composition:	89% Cabernet Sauvignon, 10% Cabernet Franc, 1% Merlot
Clones:	Multiple
Appellation:	Coombsville, Napa Valley, CA
Vineyard:	Caldwell Vineyard Estate, Established 1981
Vineyard Blocks:	Caldwell 18, 11, 15, 14; Kreuzer 2, 3, 4
Yield:	3.5 Tons per Acre on Average
Average Vine Age:	24 Years
Grape Varieties:	See Composition Section
Rootstock:	Multiple
Harvest Date:	Multiple

Vintage Summary: The 2018 growing season was ideal for almost every varietal, clone, rootstock, and age group of vine. Long, temperate, and devoid of rain and heat spikes during critical phenological ripening steps, it provided winemakers and vineyard managers very little stress, while perfectly stressing the fruit. A perfect way to come off the disturbing fire-riddled vintage of 2017, 2018 will go down in history as one of the highest quality and abundant vintages of all time. Every wine in our lineup has a backbone of structure, power, and verve but is also strongly defined by varietal purity and elegance.

Fermentation:	Stainless and French Oak Barrels
Yeast:	Multiple
ML Bacteria:	Multiple
Wood Origin:	100% French (Jupilles, Bercé)
Aging:	18 Months in Barrel
New Oak Barrels:	80%
Fining:	None
Filtering:	Filtered
Alcohol:	15.1%
Bottled on:	Late July and early-August 2020

Winemaker's Tasting Notes: Strikingly similar to older vintages of Caldwell Signature Gold (I'm looking at 2010), our flagship Cabernet Sauvignon from 2018 is overwhelmed with aromatics of crème de cassis, electric blue fruits, and purple flowers. Allspice plus a hint of star anise, cola, and pencil lead envelop the core fruit aromatics. A breadth of dark fresh blueberries leads into a dense cola-berried mid-palate. Texture feels more layered and denser this year, potentially due to the length of the growing season, and cooler temperatures providing healthier acidity relative to previous years. A year or two in the cellar will be rewarded, as the powerful ultra-fine, and high-volume tannins mellow out just a little, but this classic Napa Cabernet will age gracefully for 20+ years without any wrinkles.

Cellaring:	2 – 30 Years
Production:	225 Cases
Price:	\$225 / 750ml