

Cabernet Franc

2017

Vintage:	Eighth
Composition:	78% Cabernet Franc, 16% Cabernet Sauvignon, 6% Carménère
Clones:	Multiple
Appellation:	Napa Valley, Coombsville District
Vineyard:	Caldwell Vineyard Estate, Established 1981
Block:	Caldwell 10, 17
Yield:	3.0 Tons per Acre on Average
Grape Varieties:	Cabernet Franc, Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot
Rootstock:	Multiple
Average Vine Age:	23 Years
Harvest Date:	Multiple

Vintage Summary: The 2017 growing season started with a wet winter and early spring unprecedented in recent history, closer in relation to 1995, 1998, and 2011. The mild spring conditions extended flowering, and provided limited fruit shatter and good set. High temperatures for a few days in early and mid-July accelerated veraison in reds, and pushed whites into accelerated sugar accumulation. Three pre-veraison heat spikes early in June and July started early phenolic precursor production and shifted hormonal pressures in our vines to concentrate on ripening fruit early. Two heat spikes in late August and early September ravaged young vine blocks, but had very little effect on older vines and those with larger canopies providing better protection from the sun. Ultimately, 2017 will be characterized as a ripe, opulent, and very tannic year with a relatively short growing season due to the tragic fires that began on October 8th.

Fermentation:	Stainless and French Oak Barrels
Yeast:	Multiple
ML:	Multiple
Wood Origin:	French Oak (Jupilles, Bercé)
Aging:	18 Months
New Oak Barrels:	80%
Fining:	None
Filtering:	Filtered
Alcohol:	14.8%
Bottling Date:	April 12, 2019

Winemaker's Tasting Notes: Our 2017 Cabernet Franc is rich, ripe, and dominated by blue and black fruits – while retaining its varietal herbal spine. Sweet oak, vanillin, sweet pipe tobacco, and camphor accompany a floral lift on the nose. On the palate, milk chocolate, explosive blue fruits, and unctuous, mouth-coating fine-grain tannins carry the mid-palate through the long, long, soft finish.

Cellaring:	2–15 Years
Production:	101 Cases
Price:	\$125 / 750ml

