

# VARIETAL COLLECTION

## *Petit Verdot*

BY CALDWELL

2022

Vintage:	Twelfth
Composition:	98% Petit Verdot, 1% Syrah, 1% Merlot
Clone:	400
Appellation:	Coombsville, Napa Valley, CA
Vineyard:	Caldwell Vineyard Estate, Established 1981
Vineyard Blocks:	Caldwell 15 and 17
Yield:	3.0 Tons per Acre on Average
Average Vine Age:	30 Years
Grape Varieties:	See Composition Section
Rootstock:	Multiple
Harvest Date:	Multiple

**Vintage Summary:** Coming off yet another drought year in 2021, 2022 started early and was warm to hot throughout the vintage. Whites kicked off with Sauvignon Blanc in August, but Chardonnay took its time ripening, as we had an excellent crop. The window between whites and reds was nonexistent, with Malbec coming to the winery only 2 days after Chardonnay. Since the heat provided plenty of ripeness, reds kept rolling in despite the rain and we didn't finish harvest of the old vines in Block 11 until October 27th. One of the most unique vintages in history, 2022 really was two harvests: one before the long, triple-digit week in September, and one after the rains in late September. Luckily Coombsville only hit 105F, whereas up valley some regions hit 120F for days in a row, devastating the crops. The extreme weather pattern variation was incredibly site specific, and only the terroirs best able to withstand the heat will deliver incredible wines.

Fermentation:	Stainless Steel
Yeast:	Multiple
ML Bacteria:	Multiple
Wood Origin:	100% French Oak (Jupilles, Bercé)
Aging:	18 Months
New Oak Barrels:	0%
Fining:	None
Filtering:	None
Alcohol:	15.1%
Bottling Date:	July 18, 2024

**Winemaker's Tasting Notes:** The Caldwell Varietal Collection Petit Verdot always has a core of brambly, blackberry compote and black herbal liqueur notes, surrounded by layers of tar and fresh tobacco. In 2022, the expression is more on the blackberry compote than the bramble, as the heat elevated the fruit. That's where the Syrah and Merlot came in to help, giving the wine a spice and elevation more typical to previous years of Petit Verdot. On the palate, however, it is quite different than previous years; while normally quite tannic and intense, the 2022 Petit Verdot shows a more elegant form with a smooth, fine finish.

Cellaring:	Now – 10 Years
Production:	84 Cases
Price:	\$125/750mL

