

# VARIETAL COLLECTION

## Syrah

BY CALDWELL

2022

Vintage:	Fourteenth
Composition:	100% Syrah
Clones:	Estrella, 470, and 877
Appellation:	Coombsville, Napa Valley, CA
Vineyard:	Caldwell Vineyard and Kreuzer Vineyard
Vineyard Blocks:	Caldwell 15 and Kreuzer
Yield:	3.0 Tons per Acre on Average
Average Vine Age:	31 Years
Grape Varieties:	See Composition Section
Rootstock:	5BB and 3309
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:	50%
Fining:	None
Filtering:	None
Alcohol:	15.5%
Bottling Date:	July 18, 2024

Winemaker's Tasting Notes: The 2022 VCB Syrah demonstrates a surprisingly high level of earthen complexity for such a warm year — a testament to the old vines here at Caldwell, which are over 30 now. Behind the earthy aromatics are notes of iron, caramelized sugar, black olive, and opulent purple fruits. The palate is filled with decadent plum, blackberry, and fresh baking spices similar to the 2021, but with an even silkier finish. The consistency of Caldwell's Syrah every vintage is stunning, but this year provides a bit more sweetness to the fruit impact due to the heat of the vintage.

Cellaring:	Now - 10 Years
Production:	142 Cases
Price:	\$95/750ml

