**Location:** Southwest Idaho

**Population:** 48,957 – Caldwell city limits; 624,000 – Treasure Valley metropolitan area

**Nearby Airport:** Boise Airport (BOI) is located less than 30 miles from Caldwell. Boise is served daily by Delta, Southwest, United, U.S. Air, Alaska Airlines and Allegiant.

In addition, the Caldwell Industrial Airport is located southeast of downtown. It is a city-owned, public airport.

**Climate:** Caldwell enjoys four distinct seasons. It’s location in the high desert assures mild winters and low humidity.

**Elevation:** 2,375 ft.

**Brief History:** Caldwell's inception largely occurred as a result of the construction of the Oregon Short Line Railroad, which connected Wyoming to Oregon through Idaho. Robert E. Strahorn came to the Boise River Valley in 1883 to select a route for the railroad, and rejected the grade into Boise City as too steep, therefore choosing a site 30 miles to the west in Canyon County. Caldwell was named after one of Strahorn's business partners, Alexander Caldwell, a former Senator from Kansas.

Irrigation canals and waterways were constructed throughout Canyon County, and these facilities provided the foundation for an agricultural-based economy in Caldwell. The Oregon Short Line Railroad became part of the larger Union Pacific Railroad network and in 1906 the Caldwell freight and passenger depot was constructed. Caldwell experienced moderate growth as an agricultural processing, commercial retail and educational center during the twentieth century.

**Time Zone:** Mountain Standard, Mountain Daylight Time

**Mountains:** Owyhee and Boise Mountain Ranges surround the city.

**Water:** Boise River – a calm river located at the north end of town, perfect for fishing. Caldwell also borders the Deer Flat National Wildlife Refuge, which encompasses Lake Lowell. Lake Lowell is a 14.5 sq-mile reservoir perfect for boating, fishing and wildlife viewing.

**Large Caldwell Companies**: West Valley Medical Center, Crookham Seed Company, Southwark Metal Manufacturing, Best Bath Systems

**Hotel Rooms:** 197

**Hotel Room Tax:** 7 percent

**Sales Tax:** 6 percent

**Unique Caldwell Attractions:**

***Sunnyslope Wine Region***

http://sunnyslopewinetrail.com

Idaho’s first American Viticulture Area (AVA), Snake River Valley, stretches across 12 counties in Southwest Idaho and two counties in Oregon, with a large concentration in the Caldwell area, known as Sunnyslope. The region boasts many award-winning wineries with more on the way. Lush orchards give way to scenic valleys and rugged mountains, providing the ideal setting for wine tasting.

***Indian Creek Park***

[**http://www.cityofcaldwell.com/page/indian\_creek/**](http://www.cityofcaldwell.com/page/indian_creek/)

Located in downtown Caldwell, and fully restored in 2009, this 5-acre park runs alongside the river and encompasses pedestrian bridges, a gazebo, benches, lighting and landscaping.

***Orma J. Smith Museum of Natural History***

[**http://www.collegeofidaho.edu/cultural-institutions/orma-j-smith-museum-natural-history**](http://www.collegeofidaho.edu/cultural-institutions/orma-j-smith-museum-natural-history)

The only natural history museum in the region encompassing southwestern Idaho, southeastern Oregon and northern Nevada, the Orma J. Smith Museum of Natural History is the premier resource for environmental and natural history education in the region. The Museum is listed in the “30 Most Amazing Higher Education Natural History Museums” list compiled by Best College Reviews. The Museum is located in the basement of Boone Hall on The College of Idaho campus, and open to the public.

***Deer Flat National Wildlife Refuge***

[**https://www.fws.gov/refuge/deer\_flat/**](https://www.fws.gov/refuge/deer_flat/)

Nestled in rolling sagebrush hills, Deer Flat National Wildlife Refuge on the Caldwell city limits provides a watery oasis for resident and migratory wildlife, including spectacular concentrations of mallards and Canada geese. Lake Lowell is part of the refuge, and includes 28 miles of shoreline. The lake is a great spot for boating, fishing and viewing over 200 avian species. The refuge, established in 1909 is one of the oldest refuges in the National Wildlife Refuge System.

***“Our Memories” Indian Creek Museum***

[**http://canyoncountyhistory.com/our-memories-indian-creek-museum/**](http://canyoncountyhistory.com/our-memories-indian-creek-museum/)

Operated by the Canyon County Historical Society, “Our Memories” Indian Creek Museum is an homage to days gone by. The museum—once a doctor’s office—has over 30 rooms dedicated to scenes from yesteryear. The displays include antique medical equipment, a World War II room, living room displays, a church room and one filled to the brim with antique washing machines! A great trip down memory lane.

***Historic Downtown Caldwell Walking Tour***

[**http://www.destinationcaldwell.com/historic-walking-tour**](http://www.destinationcaldwell.com/historic-walking-tour)

Enjoy a self-guided tour through historical Caldwell, stopping at 15 notable structures. From residences to churches, these buildings tell the story of Caldwell.

***Van Slyke Museum***

Harrison Street, Memorial Park

Located outdoors at Memorial Park, the Van Slyke Museum is a treasure trove of artifacts. Telling the story of Idaho’s pioneers, ranchers and farmers, the Van Slyke Museum has items dating back to when Idaho was a territory. Artifacts include vintage agricultural equipment, a railcar and caboose, and two Civil War-era cabins built in 1864. The descendants of both cabin owners still reside in the Treasure Valley!

**Signature Events:**

*Bud to Blossom: Art & Wine in the Park*

**Annual in May**

[**http://sunnyslopewinetrail.com/events**](http://sunnyslopewinetrail.com/events.html#budblossom)

Held one town over at the beautiful Marsing Island Park on the Snake River, the Bud to Blossom event highlights some of Caldwell’s finest wineries! After checking out the wine trail and taking in the beauty of spring on the vineyard, visitors can walk along the river, take in local art and sip on a glass of Idaho vino.

*Caldwell Night Rodeo*

**Annual in August**

**http://www.caldwellnightrodeo.com**

One of the largest and longest-running annual events in Canyon County, the Caldwell Night Rodeo draws over 40,000 rodeo fans a year over five action-packed nights. With over 500 world-class contestants, the event features some of the best professional cowboys, cowgirls and animal athletes in the world, and is an annual stop on the professional rodeo tour.

In 2015, Caldwell Night Rodeo was voted the “#1 Large Outdoor Event” in Canyon County, one of the “Top 10 Rodeo's in the US” by *Real Time Cowboy Magazine* and one of the “101 Best Events in the West” by *American Cowboy Magazine*.

*Sunnyslope Wine Trail Festival*

**Annual in August**

[**http://sunnyslopewinetrail.com/events**](http://sunnyslopewinetrail.com/events.html#budblossom)

Put on by the wineries of the Sunnyslope Wine Trail, this annual event takes place in downtown at the Caldwell Train Depot Park. It is an afternoon filled with food, music, art and—of course—wine!

*Farm to Fork Dinner*

**Annual in September**

A fundraiser for the Caldwell Chamber of Commerce, this annual event takes place on a bridge over Indian Creek in downtown Caldwell—truly a taste of the very best the city has to offer in a breathtaking setting.

*Indian Creek Festival*

**Annual in September**

**http://www.cityofcaldwell.com/indian\_creek\_festival**

Always a popular event, the Indian Creek Festival highlights include a Cardboard Kayak Race down Indian Creek, as well as an epic tug-of-war competition across the river banks. A local favorite!

*Winter Wonderland*

**Annual November – January**

[**http://www.cityofcaldwell.com/winter\_wonderland**](http://www.cityofcaldwell.com/winter_wonderland)

With a big tree lighting ceremony in mid-November, downtown Caldwell’s Winter Wonderland event kicks off and spans into mid-January with beautiful lights around Indian Creek. For the tree lighting event, they also have a kiddie train, petting zoo and Santa’s workshop. Also of note is the Chamber’s Night Light Parade, which takes place in December. Nearly a million LED lights!

**For additional info about Caldwell, visit** [**www.destinationcaldwell.com**](http://www.destinationcaldwell.com) **or contact Christina Lenkowski at 503.989.8073 or** [**Christina.lenkowski@gmail.com**](mailto:Christina.lenkowski@gmail.com)