

T O R

TOR Cabernet Sauvignon Beckstoffer To Kalon, Clone 4, 2009

Blend: 100% Cabernet Sauvignon
Production: 150 cases
Release date: September 2011

Vintage

2009 growing season was definitely one of the most uniform in recent history. No spring frosts, long and cool, except for one heat spike in June - I think one of the best for our blocks in Oakville's Beckstoffer To Kalon and on Howell Mountain, our Cimarossa vineyard. The wines from these terroirs have developed beautifully in barrel. All the grapes from these sites were picked under ideal conditions at optimum ripeness before the strange warm storm hit the North Coast on Oct 15th. One of our favorite To Kalon vintages to date.

Vineyards

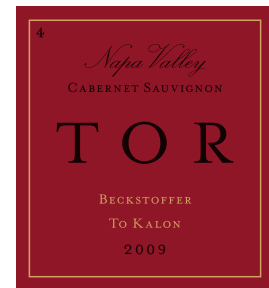
Beckstoffer To Kalon continues to receive worldwide accolades for the wines, particularly in the last decade. The vineyard is on a gentle slope on the western foothills of the Oakville appellation. Soils are Bale loam/Bale clay loam, and are impeccably farmed by Andy Beckstoffer's team. We have a by-acre contract so we can determine canopy, crop load and picking dates – but rely on the Beckstoffer viticulturists for insight into this unique vineyard to guide our decisions. 2009 was an exceptional vintage for this vineyard, and our blocks. Our Clone 4 is in A Block, one acre and the most western rows in this block.

Winemaking

The fundamentals are to have the vineyard stand above and beyond any flavors winemaking brings to the equation. We do berry sort, pick early morning, and ferment at temperatures that preserve varietal indemnity, never over aerate, and never filter or fine. We like to leave everything in, not remove flavors. Our favorite French coopers are Darnajou and Tarasaund for our Cabernet Sauvignons from To Kalon. We believe great winemaking is to know what not to do, which does take experience.

Winemaker's Tasting Notes

The nose on it is very savory with some sweet smoke and espresso as well as a touch of red cherry. On the palate, a medium/full weight with very sweet, round, ripe tannins, cassis and spice. The finish is very smooth and long with just the slightest touch of youthful tannin and earth.



"...Beckstoffer To Kalon Clone 4 is a huge, implosive wine. Dark red berries, flowers and licorice take shape beautifully in the glass. Rich layers of fruit continue to saturate the plate in this impeccable Cabernet Sauvignon."

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Robert Parker's
The Wine Advocate
December 2011