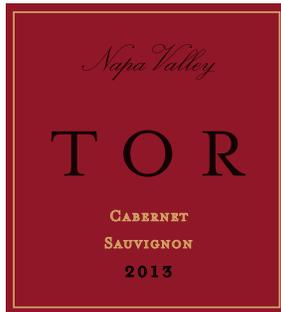


T O R



TOR Cabernet Sauvignon Napa Valley, 2013

Blend: 85% Cabernet Sauvignon, 15% Petit Verdot
Production: 400 cases
Release Date: January 2016

Vintage

It started with a warm, early, and dry spring. This is always an advantage, for it gets everything starting uniformly on the right path. The set was smaller than 2012. At the end of June we saw a few days of our only 100 degree weather for the year, then back to ideal growing conditions until we wanted to pick. Some white varietals started to come in the first part of August, making it one of the earliest harvests in recent history. Cabernet Sauvignon was the latest. In September the weather began its fall cooling cycle, and a few light showers slowed the growing pattern till October when we picked most of our Cabernet Family grapes. A long, beautiful growing season for Cabernet Sauvignon.

Vineyards

We only make a “Napa Valley” bottling when we feel that the sum of the parts are equally as brilliant as any one of our single vineyard wines. To get to that end, we taste and work with all our vineyards – To Kalon, Melanson, Tierra Roja, Cimarossa, Herb Lamb, Mast, and Vine Hill Ranch – to find the right blend. In 2013 it is predominately Mast Vineyard and Vine Hill Ranch, with more Petit Verdot than ever before. We love this wine.

Winemaking

The 2013 Napa Cabernet Sauvignon was fermented as individual wines and then blended back after many blending trials. The Mast Cabernet base wine was left on its skins for a little over 14 days and given no more than two pump-overs a day. The Mast Cabernet was put down to about 60% new wood that was a mix of Taransaud, Sylvain and Ermitage. The goal on this wine is not to make the biggest, most massive wine of the vintage, but is instead to blend a complete and complex wine that shows both the vintage and the best qualities of each vineyard that went into it.

Winemaker’s Tasting Notes

The 2013 Napa Cabernet is for me easily the finest example of this wine to date. The inclusion of the Vine Hill Ranch Petit Verdot has given the wine a rich, intense mid palate that shows plum, spices, incense and raw meats. The finish on this is at least 40 seconds long and tails off with bright cleansing acidity from the PV and sweet round tannins from the Cabernet. As delicious as this is now, it shows the core of fruit and texture that should allow it to age for at least 5 years.