

International WINE REPORT

TOR KENWARD Cabernet Sauvignon, Cimarossa Vineyard 2013

98

2015 TOP 100 WINES | Rank #2

The 2013 Cimarossa Vineyard Cabernet Sauvignon from Tor Kenward is an absolutely stunning expression of Howell Mountain fruit at its finest. This instantly delivers compelling aromas of fresh, ripe black currants and sweet blueberries layered with violets and graphite which take shape in this seductive wine. This richly textured, full-bodied Cabernet continues to impress with its outstanding display of both power and finesse. It remains beautifully balanced, with wonderful concentrated flavors, while effortlessly delivering layer upon layer of gorgeous ripe fruit through the long, harmonious finish. Overall, this is a simply outstanding Cabernet Sauvignon that is irresistible right now, but also looks to have a tremendous future ahead. (Best 2016-2032) - *November, 2015 (JD)*

TOR KENWARD Cabernet Sauvignon, Tierra Roja 2013

97

The 2013 Tierra Roja Cabernet Sauvignon is a completely captivating wine and may be Tor's best showing yet from this esteemed vineyard, even eclipsing last year's magnificent effort. This stunning Cabernet is incredibly pure and focused; delivering gorgeous perfumed aromas of dark berries and ripe dark currants along with violets, fresh minerals and a slight graphite edge. On the palate this is full-bodied and well structured while remaining beautifully balanced. This continues to impress with its outstanding finesse and wonderful purity all the way through the velvety finish. While this is already extremely appealing, I expect it to continue to evolve gracefully over time. (Best 2016-2032) - *November, 2015 (JD)*

TOR KENWARD Petit Verdot, Vine Hill Ranch 2013

96

This outstanding 100% Petit Verdot from Tor Kenward is sourced from block 3D in Vine Hill Ranch, and this specific block is considered to be excellent for growing Bordeaux varieties. Petit Verdot is typically used more for blending, but the growing conditions in 2013 allowed for Tor to produce one barrel of this as a single varietal wine and the result is absolutely stunning. This is a remarkably pure expression of Petit Verdot, which releases gorgeous aromas of fresh blackberries and blueberries, woven together with graphite, violets and spring florals, which all come together in the glass. This continues to impress with its wonderful fine velvety texture, well integrated tannins and excellent overall balance and finesse as it expands beautifully onto the finish. It's not very often to see a 100% Petit Verdot from Napa Valley of this quality and this is one of the best examples I have ever tasted. (Best 2016-2028) - *November, 2015 (JD)*

TOR KENWARD Cabernet Franc, Beckstoffer To Kalon 2013

95

For the past decade, Tor has been working with just 2 blocks of Cabernet Franc in Beckstoffer To Kalon, which he primarily used for blending, but Tor's Vision was to one day showcase this wine on its own. The moment was right in 2013 and Tor produced his first bottling of Cabernet Franc from Beckstoffer To Kalon, and it is a complete success. This compelling wine delivers seductive aromas of fresh black cherries and sweet cassis followed by sweet spices, fresh tobacco, leather, tar and violets. On the palate this offers a lovely suave texture with remarkable overall balance and finesse with delicious ripe fruits expanding on the finish. This wine constantly evolved with each minute in the glass and I expect to continue to do so over the next decade. (Best 2016-2028) - *November, 2015 (JD)*

TOR KENWARD Cabernet Sauvignon, Beckstoffer To Kalon 2013

95

The 2013 Beckstoffer To Kalon Cabernet Sauvignon from is a magnificent showing from Tor Kenward. This Clone 337 is a gorgeous expression of Napa Valley Cabernet with aromas of ripe cherries and blackberries, sweet spices even hints of shaved chocolate all taking shape in the glass. On the palate this has a beautiful seamless texture with well integrated sweet tannins and wonderful balance and finesse through the velvety, precise finish. Overall, the 2013 is a spectacular wine which is already drinking well, but will ultimately age gracefully for many years to come. (Best 2016-2030) - *November, 2015 (JD)*

TOR KENWARD Cabernet Sauvignon, Napa Valley 2013

94

This Napa Valley Cabernet includes the addition of 15% Petit Verdot. Tor works with all his vineyards to find the best result for this wine including; To Kalon, Melanson, Tierra Roja, Cimarossa, Herb Lamb, Mast and Vine Hill Ranch, but in 2013 it is predominately Mast Vineyard and Vine Hill Ranch making up the final blend. As this begins to open it offers aromas of ripe cherries and blackberries woven together with sweet spices, chocolate dustings and a subtle earthy character. This Cabernet possesses remarkable balance and finesse with a seamless velvety texture all the way through the finish. Today, this is already drinking beautifully, and should continue to do so for years to come. (Best 2016-2028) - *November, 2015 (JD)*