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N A P A V A L L E Y

BECKSTOFFER TO KALON VINEYARD

CABERNET SAUVIGNON

2019

VINEYARD Beckstoffer To Kalon continues to receive worldwide accolades, and has been said to be the most famous vineyard in Napa Valley. The site is set along a gentle slope on the western foothills of the Oakville Appellation. Top-soils are Bale loam/Bale clay loam and running through the middle and west side of the vineyard are remnants of ancient streambeds riddled with rock. For the last decade, we have worked with six blocks of Cabernet Sauvignon and two blocks of Cabernet Franc. Each vintage tells a different story, and the best wines can either be single blocks or blends of blocks.

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WINEMAKING Often our To Kalons show a lot more fruit or “flesh” at this stage, but this one is darker and deeper than most we have made from our eight blocks in To Kalon. Maybe this is because we thin each vine to one cluster per shoot, and most probably it is one that will be evolving for a very long time. Matured in 100% Darnajou small French oak barrels for twenty months and bottled without fining or filtration.

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WINEMAKER'S TASTING NOTES The 2019 To Kalon Cabernet is truly unlike any other To Kalon we have made in 20 years. This years wine includes the largest percentage of Cabernet Franc that we have ever had in a To Kalon and wow what that did! This years version has all of the depth and richness that you expect from a To Kalon Cabernet but with much more refined tannins and a slight rosewater, tobacco edge that is not normally there. In addition the lift and freshness that the addition of the Franc added makes this perhaps the most food friendly To Kalon we have ever made. As great as past To Kalons have been it is very hard to single this out as the best but in a few years I would not be surprised to see it there.

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VINTAGE After a good wet spring, the 2019 growing season fell into its typical dry and sunny summer, unmarked by any extremes. Consistent temps helped to preserve freshness and finesse in the fruit with abundant hang time teasing out great color, structure and soft tannins. The fruit set was lighter than 2018, clusters tight and concentrated. 2019 were slow to come around in barrel, but once in bottle showed very precocious, more so than 2018. This is a vintage that is going to make a lot of Napa Valley Cabernet Sauvignon lovers very happy. An outstanding Napa Valley vintage with very accessible wines that will age well.

98-100 points – *Antonio Galloni, Vinous*

99 points – *Jonathan Cristaldi, Decanter*

97 points – *Robert Parker Wine Advocate*

