

T O R

TOR Cabernet Sauvignon

Beckstoffer To Kalon, Anniversary Cuvée, 2010

Blend: 100% Cabernet Sauvignon (50% Clone 337, 50% Clone 6)

Production: 150 cases

Release date: January 2013

Vintage

2010 defied gravity. It shouldn't have been a great vintage for Cabernet Sauvignon, but we think it is one of our very best. So what happened? A very late and wet start pushed back bud break, bloom, and set which contributed to a very small crop. It was a cool summer until August when finally the heat was turned on. At this point we had to go out into the vineyards to remove any sunburn, which resulted in even less crop. Then, as can happen in the special years, a glorious Indian summer allowed us to ripen fully what little crop we had. It was a lot of work, but when we tasted the young wines we were most impressed.

Vineyards

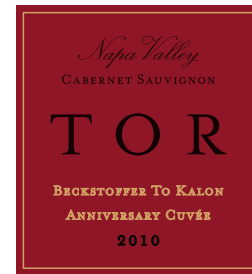
Beckstoffer To Kalon continues to receive worldwide accolades for its wines, particularly in the last decade. The vineyard is on a gentle slope on the western foothills of the Oakville appellation. Soils are Bale loam/Bale clay loam, and are impeccably farmed by Andy Beckstoffer's team. We have a by-acre 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. 2010 marked our winery's 10th anniversary. To celebrate I asked Jeff to craft an "anniversary" wine, which he did brilliantly. Cheers.

Winemaking

The 2010 To Kalon Cabernet proved again that my job as winemaker is to just get out of the way of this world class fruit. In 2010 we did little thinning in the vineyard yet still got under 2.5 tons/acre of beautifully ripe fruit. This was hand sorted and destemmed to a closed top tank where it got 3 pump overs a day until 4 days prior to finishing fermentation (which lasted 18 days) when it was backed down to 1 a day. This was barreled down to a combination of 90% new Darnajou and Taransaud barrels and bottled un-fined and un-filtered 18 months later

Winemaker's Tasting Notes

Wow. With the 2010 Anniversary Cuvée Cabernet you get a wine that lacks nothing and needs nothing. For me, this may take over as my favorite To Kalon Cabernet. The aromatics on this are floral and bright with a great mix of red and black fruits as well as a meaty, earthy side to them. On the palate this is silky and seamless while at the same time extremely rich and dense. An amazing combination of power and elegance. The upside on this wine is that with a good cellar it is almost unlimited, but it should be amazing on release as well.



"Wow, it's not often you come across a Cabernet that is this classy. It displays gorgeous notes of fresh ripe black cherries, mixed dark berries, fresh minerals and dried herbs. This shows amazing depth, structure and precision with an endless finish. Absolutely love the elegance and purity this wine brings."

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