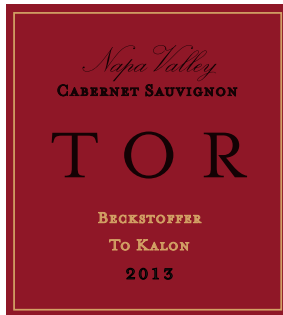


T O R



TOR Cabernet Sauvignon Beckstoffer To Kalon Vineyard, 2013

Blend: 100% Cabernet Sauvignon
Production: 600 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

Beckstoffer To Kalon continues to receive worldwide accolades, particularly in the last decade. The vineyard is on 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 old stream beds 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 be single blocks, or blends of blocks. In 2013 our F Block at the far western edge of the vineyard at the highest part of the To Kalon bench were the stars of this wine.

Winemaking

The 2013 To Kalon Cabernet was a more 'normal' fermentation for us than the 2012, and took about 12 days to finish. The resulting wine is a bit more structured and leans more to the dark fruit than red. This was given no more than two pump-overs a day and toward the end of its fermentation was only given a single pump-over each day. After pressing the wine slightly, it was moved to its traditional mix of Darnajou and Taransaud wood. This wine received the normal three racking's until bottling.

Winemaker's Tasting Notes

Where the 2012 To Kalon Cabernet was a mix of red fruit and black fruit, the 2013 is all about the black fruits. Deep black cherry, black raspberry and roasted meats are what you will find when you try the 2013. In this vintage, there are very firm but ripe tannins with fantastic lifting acidity and sweet fruit from the Clone 337 Cabernet playing off the structure and intensity of the palate. This vintage is probably going to be the longest and best lived vintage we have had from To Kalon since 2010 or maybe even 2006. The style of the vintage shows through loud and clear on this wine, with a long graceful life ahead of it.