
TOR

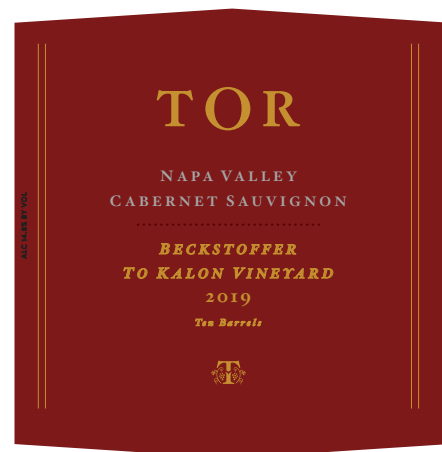
2019 CABERNET SAUVIGNON BECKSTOFFER TO KALON, NAPA VALLEY

TASTING NOTES

The 2019 To Kalon Cabernet is truly unlike any other To Kalon we have made in 20 years. This year's 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.

TECHNICAL DATA

VINTNERS	Tor & Susan Kenward
WINEMAKER	Jeff Ames
VARIETAL	100% Cabernet Sauvignon
APPELLATION	Napa Valley
PRODUCTION	250 Cases
ALCOHOL	14.8%
AGING	20 months in 100% Darnajou small French oak barrels. Bottled without fining or filtration.



BACKGROUND

"My first three decades in the Napa Valley laid the foundation. I had extraordinary mentors all willing to openly share their knowledge and passion. Robert Mondavi, André Tchelistcheff, Warren Winiarski, Ed Sbragia, Maynard Amerine and many others encouraged me to learn and experiment. We tasted together and exchanged information. Beringer also sent me to travel and walk Europe's most renowned vineyards, talk and taste with other winemakers, taste more, kick the dirt where world class wines are grown, and listen." – Tor Kenward

Jeff is one of an unusual breed of winemakers that includes his mentor Thomas Brown, Failla's Ehren Jordan and a few others who learned wine making primarily hands on. Walking the vineyards, harvests and tastings were Ames' real classrooms. "The model that was set before me was to get big, rich fruit, plush flavors, and not fine or filter if you don't have to," he says. "That's where it starts." Jeff is a purist, making sure the wines express their site foremost, rather than a particular winemaking style. During their many years of working together, Jeff and Tor have earned world-class critical acclaim. In most vintages, their single vineyard Cabernet Sauvignons and Chardonnays have scored in the top ten wines of the vintage, always among the best of Napa Valley, making them rare and hard to find. This seems to be a trend that will also be very much a part of their future.