

# TOR

N A P A V A L L E Y

## MELANSON VINEYARD CABERNET SAUVIGNON

2019

**VINEYARD** We put Pritchard Hill in parentheses because it is not an official appellation, but many great wines claim and champion the name. It's neighbor on this legendary hill is Colgin. Greg Melanson's vineyard is very steep with rows running up and down the hill. Its rocky face looks down at Napa Valley's floor. Higher elevation and afternoon breezes coming from the Pacific cool the vineyard in the warm afternoons. Ideal real estate for world class Cabernet. The mountain site is rugged, its Sobrante loam soil studded with volcanic rock. At an average elevation of 1,200 feet, the vineyard sits above the fog line and benefits from maximum sun exposure all day.

.....

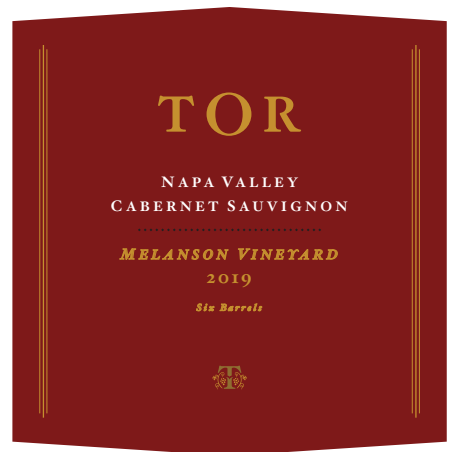
**WINEMAKING** Melanson is a plusher, richer softer expression of a mountain Napa Valley Cabernet than our others. A very steep and rocky hillside vineyard this vintage proves to show minerality and intense dark fruits. We selected 100% Taransaud barrels for Melanson. The drinking window for this wine this wine will be very long.

.....

**WINEMAKER'S TASTING NOTES** The 2019 Melanson Cabernet is certainly one of the most plush/round Melanson's we have made since we first started from here in 2013. There is the typical tannin structure off of Pritchard Hill but this year the perception of the tannin is more supple and smooth. There is roast beef, tobacco, menthol, dried herbs, vineyard dust and currants. As approachable as this is right now I would expect a comfortable 10-15 years of graceful development.

.....

**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.



# TOR

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.

.....

**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.

.....

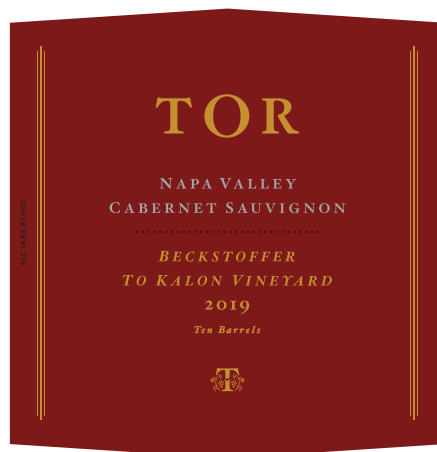
**WINEMAKER'S TASTING NOTES** The 2019 To Kalon Cabernet is truly unlike any other To Kalon we have made in 20 years. This years wine includes the largest percentage of Cabernet Franc that we have ever had in a To Kalon and wow what that did! This years version has all of the depth and richness that 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.

.....

**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*

97 points – *Robert Parker Wine Advocate*



# TOR

N A P A V A L L E Y

*PURE MAGIC*  
VINE HILL RANCH  
2019

**TOR'S NOTE** The TOR house is built and stands on the foundation of single vineyard Cabernet Sauvignons from very special blocks in what some consider First Growth or Premier Cru Napa Valley sites. To us this is hallowed land, and in the case of Beckstoffer To Kalon and Vine Hill Ranch, land that has a long history of extraordinary wines. In Vine Hill Ranch three blocks of Cabernet Sauvignon and one block of Petit Verdot. In 2016 we experimented with co-fermenting the Petit Verdot with the Cabernet from VHR. This is a very risky and daring experiment that blew us out of the water. It is hard to explain how two completely different personalities merge during the process of fermentation to become such a ONE. We've blended them in the past after fermentation, with completely different results. The only explanation we're working with now is it has to be PURE MAGIC. Nothing else makes sense. Because of very little is made, bottles of Pure Magic disappear right before our eyes. Poof!

We believe in Magic.

.....

**WINEMAKING** We aged this wine in mostly Darnajou barrels (with a few Taransaud) for about 19th months. It was the longest time on skins in tank so far about 45 days. This is usually a fairly fast ferment so it spends a lot of time on the skins when it is dry.

.....

**WINEMAKER'S TASTING NOTES** Extremely unique and delicious as ever, the 2019 Vine Hill Ranch Pure Magic is its normal ~60% Cabernet and 40% Petite Verdot as a co-ferment. This co-fermentation creates a wine that is so much better and unique than blending the components together after fermentation. This has an extremely rich palate and soaring aromatics that show smoked brisket, earth, black berries, black cherries and mint. This wine will look at 15 years in the cellar and keep going for at least another 5.

.....

**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.

