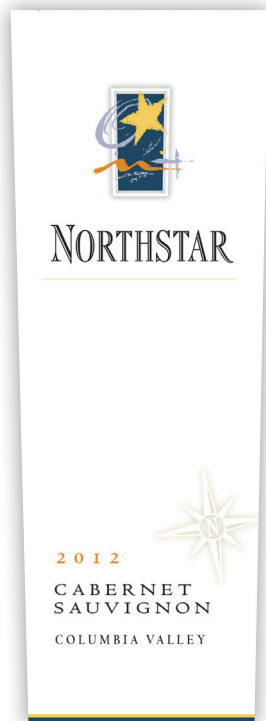




NORTHSTAR



2012 CABERNET SAUVIGNON COLUMBIA VALLEY

NORTHSTAR VARIETAL WINES

Northstar's focus on creating world-class Bordeaux-style wines begins in the vineyards where Winemaker David "Merf" Merfeld selects the best of the classic blending varietals to create Northstar's acclaimed Columbia Valley and Walla Walla Merlots. At this time, he also takes time to produce the finest expressions of each of these single varietals. We are pleased to showcase the unique characteristics of these varietals in extremely limited bottlings each vintage.

VINTAGE

The 2012 vintage experienced cool temperatures during spring, which delayed bud break and bloom by three to four weeks. Consistently warm summer temperatures lengthened the ripening period and resulted in harvest starting three weeks later than normal. Without the typical 100-degree Fahrenheit temperature spikes during the growing season, the grapes ripened very evenly with the required sugar levels and ideal physiological maturity.

VINEYARDS

Diversity of vineyards and sub-appellations within the Columbia Valley are Northstar's hallmarks. Fruit is selected from the very best possible sources. Cabernet Sauvignon from some of our favorite vineyards goes into the blend. In 2012 fruit was sourced from outstanding crops at Cold Creek Vineyard, Klipsun Vineyard, and Anna Marie Vineyard.

WINEMAKING

Grapes were destemmed, crushed, and inoculated with Premier Cuvee yeast to begin the eight-day fermentation. The must was punched down daily during fermentation, and was then racked into barrels to undergo malolactic fermentation. Racking occurred every three months for clarity during the 20-month aging process. The barrel regime included 70% French and 30% American oak – 48% of the barrels were new.

TASTING NOTES

Aromas of cherry lead into a palate ripe with raspberry, cola, almond, and vanilla flavors. The wine has a full mid-palate and a rich finish of chocolate and toasted coconut. This lush, rich wine is ready to enjoy now, but will age gracefully for years to come.

– David "Merf" Merfeld, Winemaker

TECHNICAL DATA

BLEND

100% CABERNET
SAUVIGNON

TOTAL ACIDITY 0.53 G/100 ML

PH 3.79

ALCOHOL 14.9%

CASES 1,860