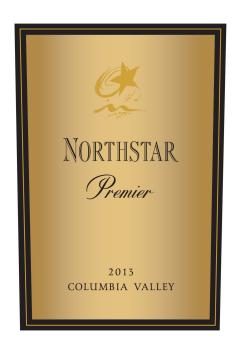
## NORTHSTAR

# Premier



### TECHNICAL DATA

TOTAL 0.53G/100ML

PH 3.56

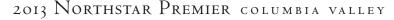
ALCOHOL 14.5%

BLEND 100% MERLOT

CASES 298 CASES

#### FOOD PAIRINGS

Cured meats, rich cheeses, beef tenderloin, seared duck, and roasted leg of lamb.



We are pleased to present the fifth vintage of our limited production Northstar Premier. This 100% Merlot is sourced from the best vineyards in the Columbia Valley and represents the culmination of years of experience in the region. Enjoy this bold yet balanced wine, built to age for many years to come.

#### VINTAGE

The 2013 growing season was warm and consistent throughout, perfect for the vines to ripen. Harvest started early in mid-August and extended into early November as fall brought cooler temperatures. The long, warm 2013 growing season resulted in beautifully ripe and balanced wines.

#### VINEYARDS

Fruit from top vineyard sites was carefully picked and fermented in separate small lots while awaiting selection for inclusion in Northstar Premier. In 2013, the lot that stood out was from Four Feathers Vineyard. Merlot from this site was chosen to meet the expectations of the creation of the wine.

### WINEMAKING

Fruit was hand-harvested and hand-sorted with an eye towards optimum aging. Vinified in extremely small lots incorporating both barrel and concrete fermentation in small,  $2\frac{1}{2}$  ton fermenters. Punchdowns were done by hand, and the basket pressed wine was aged in 100% French oak for 21 months in 50% new barrels. Bottled unfined and unfiltered for maximum flavor, the wine spent a minimum of 18 months in bottle before release.

#### TASTING NOTES

"This extremely aromatic 100% Merlot bursts from the glass with black cherry, blackberry, graham cracker, raspberry, and mint. This wine has a satisfyingly long and lingering finish. Enjoy now or for many years to come, as this wine will age gracefully in your cellar. This limited production offering, is hand-crafted with love to showcase the best that Washington Merlot has to offer."



- David "Merf" Merfeld, Winemaker