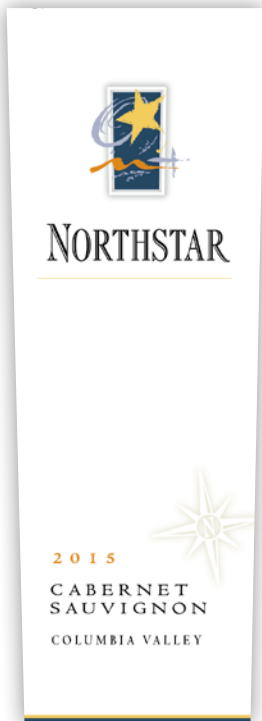# NORTHSTAR

2015 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. He also takes time to produce the finest expressions of other varietals such as Cabernet Sauvignon. We are pleased to showcase the unique characteristics of these varietals in extremely limited bottlings each vintage.

VINTAGE:

The 2015 vintage was one of the warmest growing seasons on record in Washington. Warm temperatures continued through the spring and summer, moderating slightly into fall and extending an early harvest. Overall, 2015 saw very favorable growing conditions, producing optimal ripening across varieties and yielding outstanding wines throughout the region.

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 go into the blend. In 2015 fruit was sourced from outstanding vines at Cold Creek, Beverly, Klipsun, Shaw Red Mountain, Williams, and Four Feathers.

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 96% French and 4% American oak – 52% of the barrels were new.

TASTING NOTES

Aromas of black cherry lead into a palate ripe with raspberry jam, chocolate, cedar, and vanilla flavors. The wine has a full mid-palate and a rich finish of toasted oak.

– David "Merf" Merfeld, Winemaker

TECHNICAL DATA

TOTAL ACIDITY	0.50 G/100ML
pH	3.85
ALCOHOL	14.5%
BLEND	87% CABERNET SAUVIGNON 13% MERLOT
PRODUCTION	3,100 CASES