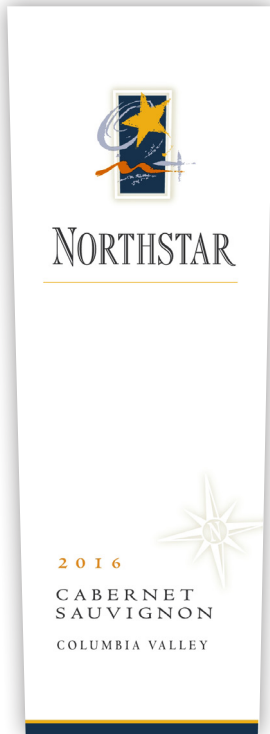




NORTHSTAR



2016 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 2016 vintage experienced the best of both worlds with a hot spring and early summer. A cooler than normal end of the ripening season allowed the wines to have ripeness, yet maintain freshness and elegance. The early dry and warm spring, combined with cooler temperatures in August and September, slowed down ripening and resulted in the longest harvest on record in Washington State (August 15-November 15). Overall, 2016 saw very favorable growing conditions, producing wines with nicely resolved tannins and maturity.

TECHNICAL DATA

TA	0.54 G/100ML
PH	3.73
ALCOHOL	14.7%
BLEND	100% CABERNET SAUVIGNON
PRODUCTION	400 CASES

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 one of our favorite vineyards goes into the blend. In 2016 fruit was sourced 100% from outstanding old vines at Cold Creek Vineyard planted in 1973 and 1985.

WINEMAKING

Grapes were destemmed, crushed, and inoculated with Premier Cuvée 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 100% French oak – 44% new. Bottled unfiltered and unfiltered.

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