

# NORTHSTAR

## Premier

### 2019 NORTHSTAR PREMIER MERLOT COLUMBIA VALLEY

*We are pleased to present the eleventh vintage of our limited production Northstar Premier Merlot. This 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 2019 vintage was another stellar growing season in Washington. Winter temperatures were average preceding the growing season resulting in little to no vine damage and bud break occurred normally. Warm spring temperatures created excellent conditions for canopy growth and early fruit development. Summertime temperatures were mild followed by cooler fall temperatures which were ideal for maintaining acidity and developing beautiful fruit aromas and flavors.

#### VINEYARD

Fruit from top vineyard sites are carefully picked and fermented in separate small lots while awaiting selection for inclusion in Northstar Premier. In 2019 the lot that stood out was from our 35 year old block at Cold Creek. 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 lot fermenters. Daily punchdowns were done by hand, and the wine was aged in 100% French oak for 20 months in 43% new barrels. Bottled unfiltered and unfiltered for maximum flavor.

#### TASTING NOTES

“This limited production offering was hand-crafted with meticulous detail to showcase the very best that Washington Merlot has to offer. Enjoy now or for many years to come, as this wine will age beautifully in your cellar.”

– David “Merf” Merfeld, Winemaker



#### TECHNICAL DATA

BLEND	100% MERLOT
TA	0.54 G/100ML
PH	3.75
ALCOHOL	14.5%
CASES	316
FOOD PAIRINGS	CURED MEATS, RICH CHEESES, BEEF TENDERLOIN, SEARED DUCK, AND ROASTED LEG OF LAMB

