



TA: 0.50 g/100 mL

PH: 3.82

ALCOHOL: 14.5%

BLEND: 82% Merlot and 18% Cabernet Sauvignon

CASE PRODUCTION:

4993

COLUMBIA VALLEY

2021 Merlot Columbia Valley

ADDITIONAL NOTES

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 varieties to create Northstar's acclaimed Columbia Valley and Walla Walla Valley Merlots.

VINTAGE NOTES

- 2021 was a very warm growing season which resulted in intensely concentrated flavors in the wines.
- Our typical cool nights during harvest helped us retain the wonderful natural acidity Washington is known for.
- The season produced red wines dark in color and dense in concentration and white wines with varietal character and bright vibrancy.

VINEYARD NOTES

- The diversity of vineyards within the Columbia Valley are Northstar's hallmarks. Fruit is selected from the absolute best sites.
- The merlot was sourced from Shaw Red Mountain, Four Feathers, James, Cold Creek, and Bacchus.
- Cold Creek and Four Feathers Cabernet Sauvignon was added to round out the blend.

WINEMAKING NOTES

- At harvest, grapes were held separately, destemmed, and crushed with 40% whole berries remaining.
- The wine was then racked into barrels to undergo malolactic fermentation. Racking occurred every three months during the 20-month aging process.
- The barrel regime included 100% French oak – 36% new.

RECOMMENDED FOOD PAIRINGS

- Dry rubbed boneless pork ribs, prime rib with shiitake mushroom risotto, and herb roasted chicken and grilled spiced cauliflower.

TASTING NOTES

The 2021 vintage has concentrated aromas of black cherry, raspberry, mint, and cream that lead into flavors of dark chocolate, graham cracker, and cedar. The wine is lush and bright and was created to enjoy now, or for many years to come as it will age gracefully. Enjoy! – David Merfeld, Winemaker