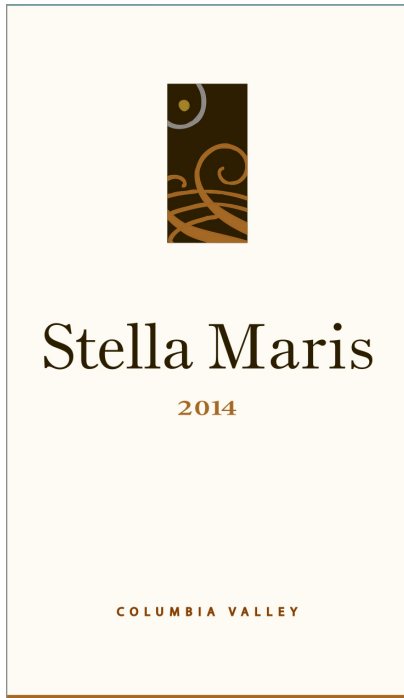


# Stella Maris

## 2014 COLUMBIA VALLEY RED WINE



### TECHNICAL DATA

#### TOTAL ACIDITY

0.49 g/100 ml

#### PH

3.89

#### ALCOHOL

14.5%

#### BLEND

48% Merlot

39% Cabernet Sauvignon

13% Syrah

#### CASES

513

#### FOOD PAIRINGS

Pizza, pastas and BBQ

### VINTAGE

2014 in Eastern Washington was one of the warmest seasons in decades. The ripening period in September cooled to more typical weather for the region. In October temperatures rose again to one of the warmest October months on record. Overall 2014 was an ideal growing season; ripening was excellent for all varieties in all locations.

### VINEYARDS

Use of fruit from a diversity of vineyards and sub-appellations within the Columbia Valley are among Northstar's hallmarks. Merlot, Cabernet Sauvignon, and Syrah were sourced from the best vineyard sites within the Columbia Valley and Walla Walla Valley. Fruit from these vines provide the complexity of this red blend. Fruit from four different vineyard sites contributed to the 2014 blend. Anna Marie and Spring Valley vineyards provided the Merlot fruit. Cabernet Sauvignon was sourced from Loess vineyard. Anna Marie vineyards provided the Syrah.

### WINEMAKING

At harvest, grapes were destemmed and crushed, leaving 40% whole berries intact. Lots were fermented separately for seven days on skins with daily punch downs. The wine was racked into barrels for malolactic fermentation and aging. The lots were racked at three month intervals for clarity. The wine aged in 100% French oak barrels with 32% new oak. The blend was created after 16 months in the barrel.

### TASTING NOTES

"Soft and approachable from start to finish, this unfined and unfiltered red blend affectionately known as "Stella," has notes of blackberry, raspberry, bing cherry, vanilla, and cola. Enjoy!"

– David "Merf" Merfeld, Winemaker