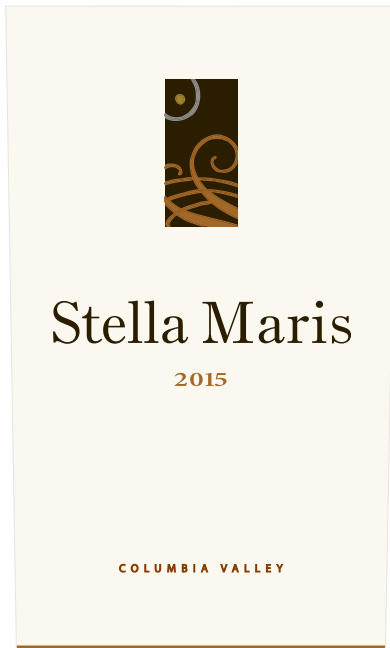


Stella Maris

2015 RED BLEND COLUMBIA VALLEY



TECHNICAL DATA

TOTAL ACIDITY

0.48 g/100 ml

PH

3.92

ALCOHOL

14.5%

BLEND

48% Merlot

39% Cabernet Sauvignon

13% Syrah

CASES

504

FOOD PAIRINGS

Pair this wine with pizzas, pastas and BBQ.

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

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. Merlot was chosen from Anna Marie, Spring Valley, and Mike Andrews. Cold Creek provided Cabernet Sauvignon and Williams added 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 39% new oak. The blend was bottled unfiltered and unfiltered after 15 months in the barrel.

TASTING NOTES

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

– David "Merf" Merfeld, Winemaker