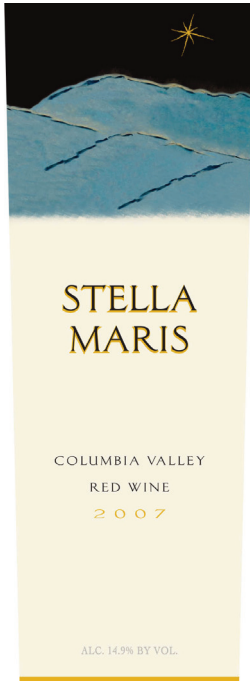


STELLA MARIS

2007 COLUMBIA VALLEY



TECHNICAL DATA

TOTAL ACIDITY	0.54G/100ML
PH	3.76
ALCOHOL	14.9%
BLEND	29% MERLOT 38% CABERNET SAUVIGNON 21% SYRAH 9% CABERNET FRANC 3% PETIT VERDOT
CASES	4,300

VINTAGE OVERVIEW

The 2007 growing season began with a cool spring and mild, consistent summer, which allowed grapes to develop steadily and uniformly. Warm sunny days and cool, dry nights in the fall helped to extend the ripening period into September and October, leading to fantastic fruit quality across varieties.

VINEYARDS

Diversity of vineyards and sub-appellations within the Columbia Valley are Northstar's hallmarks. Merlot, Cabernet Sauvignon, Syrah, Cabernet Franc, and Petit Verdot were sourced from the best vineyard sites within the Columbia Valley and Walla Walla Valley. Vines range from 5 - 20 years old and yield grapes with concentrated varietal flavors. Fruit from 6 different vineyard sites and 15 individual lots contributed to the blend. Northstar Estate, Windrow, Minnick Hills, and Horse Heaven Vineyard provided Merlot. Cabernet Sauvignon was sourced from Windrow, Horse Heaven, Shaw, Northstar, and Anna Marie vineyards. Anna Marie and Minnick Hills vineyards provided Syrah. Petit Verdot was sourced from Northstar Estate vineyard.

WINEMAKING

At harvest, grapes were destemmed and crushed, leaving 40% whole berries intact. Lots were inoculated with Premier Cuvée yeast and fermented separately for seven days with daily punch downs. The wine was racked into barrels for malolactic fermentation and aging. Lots were racked at three month intervals for clarity. The wine aged in 75% French and 25% American oak barrels with 55% new oak. The blend was created after 17 months in the barrel.

TASTING NOTES

A soft and silky wine with vanilla and rich dark chocolate, coconut, raspberry and cherry, green olive with long smoke finish. Enjoy the layers of flavors to be discovered in this Reserve red table wine we affectionately call "Stella".

– David "Merf" Merfeld, Winemaker