



# NORTHSTAR

## 2008 PETIT VERDOT COLUMBIA VALLEY

### NORTHSTAR VARIETAL WINES

*Northstar's focus on creating world-class Bordeaux-style Merlot-based wines begins in the vineyards, where winemaker David "Merf" Merfeld selects the best of the classic blending varietals to create Northstar's Columbia Valley and Walla Walla Merlots. We are pleased to showcase the unique characteristics of these varietals in extremely limited bottlings each vintage.*

### VINTAGE OVERVIEW

A cool spring and moderate summer in the Walla Walla and Columbia valleys delayed harvest slightly and allowed for extended hang time, leading to fruit with bright acidity and good sugar levels. A hot spell in late August provided good conditions for the end of the growing season and got the fruit to desired ripeness.

### VINEYARDS

This limited production 100% Petit Verdot was sourced solely from one of our favorite sites in the Columbia Valley, Stone Tree Vineyard on Wahluke Slope.

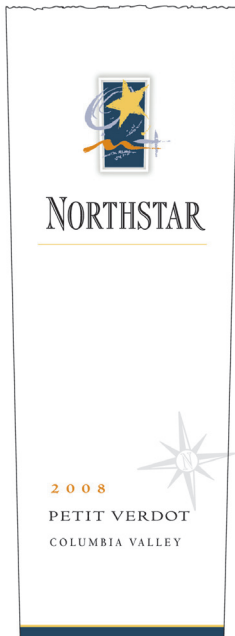
### WINEMAKING

Grapes were destemmed, crushed leaving 40% whole berries, and inoculated with Premier Cuvee yeast to begin the twelve-day fermentation (six days on skins). The must was punched down daily during fermentation, and was then racked into barrels to undergo malolactic fermentation. Racking occurred every three months for clarity during the 16-month aging process. The barrel regime included 67% American Oak and 33% French Oak with 56% new barrels. The final blend consists of 100% Petit Verdot.

### TASTING NOTES

"Traditionally used as a blending varietal, Petit Verdot is a big, dark, and spicy wine that we enjoy bottling in extremely limited quantities here at Northstar. The 2008 vintage is ripe with mouth-filling floral, violet and vanilla flavors, set off by notes of smoke and earth. A great wine with red meat and aged cheeses, this vintage was also built to last and can be enjoyed now or a few years in the future."

– David "Merf" Merfeld, Winemaker



### TECHNICAL DATA

|               |                   |
|---------------|-------------------|
| TOTAL ACIDITY | 0.62G/100ML       |
| PH            | 3.76              |
| ALCOHOL       | 14.1%             |
| BLEND         | 100% PETIT VERDOT |
| CASES         | 112               |