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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Stark Wine Expands Tasting Room in Downtown Healdsburg

New Stark Wine tasting room will blend Rhone wines, wood-fired cuisine, and art in the heart of downtown Healdsburg.

Healdsburg, Calif., (April 2, 2013) – *Stark Wine*, a producer of small-lot, Rhone-focused wines, will launch their expanded tasting room in the former *Garagiste Healdsburg* space in May 2013. Located in downtown Healdsburg, the new tasting room will serve not only a showcase for *Stark Wine*, but also as an event space (both public and private), art gallery, and culinary venue.

The new Stark tasting room will retain its current “modern meets industrial” design, where vintage winemaking machinery is interspersed with works from local artists. Orange accents add warmth to the gray walls, while the comfortable lounge-style seating and outdoor patio command customers to relax with wine by the glass or bottle.

An expansion highlight will be the addition of artisanal cheese and wine pairings, as well as a wood-fired grill that will be used to prepare an exclusive summer food menu. Winemaker Christian Stark, who is a graduate of the California Culinary Academy, is an avid fan of Argentinean wood-fired cooking and hopes to bridge his love of food and wine in the tasting room.

“The wood-fired cooking style combines the primal appeal of preparing food over an open flame with a refined technique and an elegant presentation,” says Christian. When you cook over a fire, the results can be unpredictable—like nature. It’s very similar to making wine.”

The expanded Stark tasting room will celebrate its official grand re-opening on June 8, 2013, an event that will open to the public.

About Stark Wine:

Founded by winemaker Christian Stark and his wife, Jen Stark, in 2003, *Stark Wine* produces small lots of Rhone varietal wines, including Grenache Blanc, Viognier, Grenache, Syrah, and various red blends. Additional labels include *Stark Thirst* (a Chardonnay,) and *Stark Wild* (a red blend). The grapes are sourced from organic and sustainable vineyards throughout the counties of Sonoma, Santa Barbara, and Mendocino, as well as the Sierra Foothills, and the Fair Play appellation. ~ Stark Wine donates 10% of profits to WaterAid, a non-profit organization that helps bring clean drinking water to the world’s poorest communities.

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www.starkwine.com