



PEPPER BRIDGE WINERY

2003 Merlot Walla Walla Valley

Winemaker Notes:

Our 2003 Merlot is densely packed with luscious, intense flavors of ripe currants, black cherries and wild berries. Hints of exotic spices and floral notes mingle with touches of chocolate, nutmeg, cinnamon and earth scents. Rich and concentrated, this plush merlot finishes with a smooth, refined elegance.

- Jean-François Pellet, Winemaker

The 2003 Vintage

Although the Walla Walla Valley's 2003 growing season was one of the warmest and driest in the past decade, our estate-vineyard grapes thrived. During the long, warm days, the grapes savored the sun and ripened to ideal sugar levels. Cool nights locked in acid levels, creating well-balanced flavors. Our wines from this vintage are expressive and concentrated with silky tannins.

Wine Specifics:

Varietal(s):	91% Merlot, 6% Cabernet Sauvignon, 3% Malbec
Vineyard(s):	52% Pepper Bridge Vineyard, 48% Seven Hills Vineyard
Appellation:	100% Walla Walla Valley
Oak Program:	65% New Oak, 35% Used Oak 98% French Oak, 2% American Oak
Time in Barrels:	18 Months
Harvest Date(s):	September 3 through September 28, 2003
Brix at Harvest:	24.9
Total Acidity:	0.58 g/ml
pH:	3.73
Finished Alcohol:	13.9 % Vol.
Total Production:	1,235 (9-liter cases) and 50 cases of magnums
Bottling Date:	April 14, 2005
Release Date:	December 2005

