



PEPPER BRIDGE WINERY

2000 Cabernet Sauvignon Walla Walla Valley

Winemaker Notes:

We learn more about our vineyards with each vintage, and the more we learn, the more excited we become. The 2000 Cabernet Sauvignon is the first wine made entirely at our state-of-the-art winery. Of course we always give extra care to the grapes by hand-harvesting them, but this is the first time we could provide that TLC all the way through the process. If you know me, you know I'm a little picky about how my wines are handled... I monitored each individual tank and barrel from this vintage myself. Each cluster of grapes was hand-sorted before moving to the fermentation tanks and flowing by gravity to the caves 38' below.

The 2000 Cabernet Sauvignon is rich, smooth and concentrated, with layers of black currant, blackberry, and chocolate mocha flavors with earthy and spicy tones. The finish is amazingly long and detailed, with supple and seamless tannins. This wine is a true mix of very ripe fruit, elegance and finesse. The wine aged 23 months in 70% new French oak barrels.

The 2000 Vintage:

The 2000 vintage was like that rare child who gives no trouble as a youth and matures to do great things as an adult. The spring weather was clear and calm for bloom and we had one burst of very warm weather in late July that set the vines up perfectly for veraison and ripening. Veraison started about August 6 and harvest began with Merlot at Seven Hills Vineyard on September 20 and finished with Cabernet Sauvignon at Pepper Bridge Vineyard on October 16.

- Jean-François Pellet, Winemaker

Wine Specifics:

Varietal(s):	93.4 % Cabernet Sauvignon, 6.6% Merlot
Vineyard(s):	70.4 % Seven Hills Vineyard, 29.6 % Pepper Bridge Vineyard,
Appellation:	100% Walla Walla Valley
Oak Program:	69.8% New Oak, 30.2% Used Oak 96% French Oak, 4% American Oak
Harvest Date(s):	September 29 through October 16, 2000
Brix at Harvest:	25.0
Total Acidity:	0.61g/ml
pH:	3.69
Finished Alcohol:	14.3% Vol.
Total Production:	2,685 cases (12 bottles) and 70 cases of magnums
Bottling Date:	August 8-9, 2002
Release Date:	March 15, 2003

