



PEPPER BRIDGE WINERY
EST. 1998



2014 Merlot

WALLA WALLA VALLEY

Tasting Notes

Pronounced aromas of juicy, dark fruit and cocoa blend with dusty gravel and pencil shavings in this energetic vintage. The palate features opulent notes of black plum, blueberries, and spice. Polished tannins and rich fruit make for a velvety smooth mouth-feel and the finish is all about structure and power.

The Year

The summer of 2014 marked the warmest summer on record in the Walla Walla Valley. Spring was cool and dry, with bud break occurring right on time in mid-April. Once it started warming up, it didn't stop. It was actually so warm during the month of July that the vineyard shut down and pushed our picking date by 2 weeks, putting us back in line with our average harvest date in mid-September. Despite the amount of heat units we received, meticulous work in the vineyard and precise picking dates enabled us to remain consistent with our elegant and balanced style.

Viticulture

Entirely estate; Certified Sustainable and Salmon Safe.
Founding member of VINEA.

Wine Specifics

Varietals: 77% Merlot, 16% Cabernet Franc, 7% Malbec

Vineyards: 53% Seven Hills, 36% Pepper Bridge, 11% Octave

Appellation: 100% Walla Walla Valley

Oak Program: 100% French Oak: 37% New, 63% Neutral

Harvest Dates: September 7 – October 7, 2014

Alcohol: 14.7%

Production: 1,286 cases

Bottling Date: March 23, 2016

Release Date: Fall 2016