



PEPPER BRIDGE WINERY
EST. 1998



2020 Merlot

WALLA WALLA VALLEY

Tasting Notes

Scents of raspberry and blackberry accented with dusty thyme and chocolate covered cherries are first to emerge in this Merlot. On the palate, pomegranate, dark cherry, cinnamon sticks, and mint mingle with fresh acidity. With generous, soft tannins, this wine is already beautiful—paired with its open and elegant aromas, this wine is ready to enjoy now but will age for years to come.

The Year

The growing season began with a mild and dry winter. An abundance of high winds and precipitation in the spring prompted a record year for local crops and early bloom in the beginning of June. We only saw a few days over 100 degrees throughout the entire summer, giving the grapes plenty of comfortable hang time all the way through early fall. We were fortunate that the smoke from the California and Oregon wildfires was only detected in one or two varietals and was not significant enough to influence our winemaking styles in any way. Overall, the season was idyllic and produced well balanced, complex wines with beautiful acidity and richness.

Viticulture

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

Wine Specifics

Varietals: 92% Merlot, 8% Malbec

Vineyards: 57% Seven Hills, 23% Pepper Bridge, 20% Waliser

Appellation: 100% Walla Walla Valley

Oak Program: 100% French Oak: 44% New, 56% Neutral

Harvest Dates: September 16th – October 8th, 2020

Alcohol: 14.5%

Production: 439 cases

Bottling Date: June 8th, 2022

Release Date: Fall 2022