

RIMROCK INN RESTAURANT

Dining on the Edge 2009 TASTING NOTES

We take great pride in our excellent wine list featuring the finest Northwest wineries. All our wines are hand-picked and personal favorites. But, to make an informed decision, you cannot rely solely upon Chef Otto's recommendation. What if his tastes are completely different from yours? For that reason the Tasting Notes come from a variety of sources including the winemakers themselves. We hope you enjoy perusing our notes and selecting your wine, and trust that any selection we offer can only heighten your enjoyment of the RimRock Inn experience. Cheers!

Amavi Cellars (AH-muh-vee)

Located in the Walla Walla Valley, Amavi Cellars crafts elegant, approachable wines, focusing on estate-vineyard Cabernet Sauvignon and Syrah. Our name is a combination of the Latin words "ama" (love) and "vita" (life). It represents our simple pursuits: love, life and wine (or as we like to say: amor - vita - vinum). You can be certain you are saying it the way we do if it rhymes with "momma me."

♦ Cabernet Sauvignon – Aromas of raspberries, cherries, brambles, tobacco and subtle earthiness lead you to rich flavors of ripe, dark fruits and hot chocolate. Hints of dried herbs and graphite round out the lush, smooth, lingering finish. Beautifully structured, the 2006 Cabernet Sauvignon offers the softness and complexity for which our wines are known.

♦ Syrah – Our 2006 Syrah has a subtle earthiness, backed up by abundant aromas of violets, blueberries and dark fruits. A touch of minerality mingles with flavors of mixed berries and cream of cassis. Well-structured and full-bodied, the wine shows a splendid balance of acidity and ripeness, leading to a distinguished, lengthy finish. Wine Enthusiast: 91 Points, Editors' Choice.

Badger Mountain Vineyards

Located near Kennewick, Wa. At Badger Mountain we balance tradition and technology to produce a wide array of classic varietal wines, as well as limited bottlings of wines with no added sulfites/preservatives. We are committed to producing organic wines, which have become nationally and internationally recognized for their consistent high quality.

♦ Rosé of Cabernet – This versatile wine is fairly bursting with the aromas of freshly picked strawberries, rose petals, and a hint of citrus. The intense strawberry, star fruit, and gooseberry character is complimented by a slight sweetness and balanced by crisp acidity. We are always pleased with the fruit character in this wine, made with 100% Cabernet Franc from our estate vineyard. The grapes are harvested right at the first point of complete maturity, exhibiting well-developed fruit and spice flavors. The grapes are immediately crushed and given about 4 hours of skin contact to extract some color before pressing. The juice is placed in a temperature controlled fermenting tank, chilled, and inoculated with the classic yeast for semi-sweet, fruity wines, Epernay 2. Cold fermentation preserves the delicate fruit character and allows us to stop fermentation to retain a slight sweetness in the finished product.

Barnard Griffin Winery

Located in Richland, WA. Founded in 1983 by Rob Griffin and Deborah Barnard, Barnard Griffin has been producing Award Winning wines for over 30 years. Barnard Griffin Winery is situated in south-central Washington at the confluence of the Yakima, Columbia, and Snake rivers, in the heart of Washington State's wine country. Barnard Griffin is the premier family owned winery in Washington and an important part of every wine aficionado's tour of the state's greatest wineries. Barnard Griffin winery not only has a rich family winemaking history, one that represents the true pioneering spirit of Washington State wines, but also takes you into wonderful, new varietals.

♦ Cabernet/Merlot – Beguiling nose of vanilla spice, dried fruit, herb and raspberry candy. Straightforward plum, cherry and orange fruit on the palate. Round and approachable with a supple texture. Good with everyday foods such as beef and barbequed meat.

◆ Fumé Blanc – A pleasant, delicate medley of grapefruit, lime and minerals in the nose. Strikes a perfect balance between mouth-filling, long flavors and zesty acidity. Lime and flint on the finish with hints of ginger. Great with shellfish or as an aperitif.

◆ Syrah – Brimming with blackberry, black cherry and plum fruit, this Syrah is very exciting to drink! Solid acidity, chewy tannins and well integrated oak accents add depth and complexity. As with so many of our Reserve and Tulip Syrahs, this 2007 is bound to be an award winner. Try barbecued ribs with this. Wine Enthusiast - 90 points. "... Griffin has gained a cult following of sorts, especially for his Syrah ... he is generally considered among the country's finest Syrah producers, regularly winning top awards at the best competitions."

Basel Cellars Estate Winery

Located in Walla Walla, WA. Basel Cellars began the journey into the wine business in 2002. Our Estate vineyards were planted prior to this in 1997. All of our production is done on site in our 9,600 sq. ft. underground winery. We are proud to be able to produce Estate wines from Pheasant Run, our Estate Vineyards.

◆ Claret – This blend of merlot, cabernet sauvignon, cabernet franc and syrah was aged for 18 months in American and French Oak. This spectacular blend displays rich and supple flavors of cranberry, pomegranate and cherries that lead to a velvety finish.

◆ Forget-Me-Not – Aged for one month in New French Oak then moved to stainless steel tanks for partial malolactic fermentation to retain freshness and vibrancy. Aromas of Lemongrass and grapefruit and the flavors of pear and kiwi make this wine perfect for your fresh salads or your favorite seafood dish.

Canoe Ridge Vineyard

Located near Paterson, WA. In 1989, a group of farmers started planting winegrapes on Canoe Ridge, which up to that time had been home to only badgers and sagebrush. Canoe Ridge Vineyard's original 101 acres of plantings were completed and additional acres were developed. A total of 143 acres are now in full production. Our estate vineyard is located in Washington State's preeminent wine region, the Columbia Valley. We produce wines with intense flavors by growing our grapes in a unique location with distinctive soils and microclimate. Canoe Ridge gently slopes five miles toward the east and west from its 910-foot peak. We selected this site for Canoe Ridge Vineyard because of its distinctive microclimate, which is perfect for growing Merlot, Cabernet Sauvignon and Chardonnay. The vineyard is located at a wide expanse of the Columbia River, which moderates the vineyard temperature in both summer and winter. During the growing season, the warm days and cool nights provide the perfect conditions for grape maturity and balance. During winter, the moderating effects of the river keep Canoe Ridge an average of 10 degrees warmer than other parts of the Columbia Valley. Our estate vineyard overlooks the vast Umatilla National Wildlife Refuge, which encompasses 29,370 acres of marshes, sloughs, open water and cropland. This is a popular nesting area for Great Basin Canadian geese, several species of ducks and other marsh and water birds.

◆ Late Harvest Muscat – The round, lush mouthfeel displays concentrated flavors of lovely honey-apricot with a rich, lingering finish. The residual sugar is balanced with lively acidity, making it an easy match with a variety of cheeses, fresh fruits and light desserts. Or, it's a wonderful dessert served by itself. We make our Muscat dessert wine in the ice wine style, by freezing the grapes immediately, which removes much of the water and preserves the grapes' natural sugar and acid. The grapes are pressed while frozen. This unusual technique allows us to pick early, while natural acidity is relatively high, and precisely select the desired sugar level.

◆ Canoe Ridge Reserve Merlot – Even when the vineyard was in its youth, there was one particular block that struck us as really special. For many vintages, we fermented it as an individual lot but always blended it with other Merlot lots. By the 1998 vintage, we felt it was ready to show on its own and we bottled it for our first Reserve Merlot. This fruit is grown on the far east edge of our vineyard in a location consisting of very shallow minimal soils. This adds additional farming concerns, but it is worth the extra attention it requires because the resulting fruit is always the most elegant balanced Merlot on the estate with an extremely velvety texture and chocolate palate. Barrel aging is in 100 percent French oak for 20-21 months. It is the most focused expression of our estate vineyard and shows why Canoe Ridge Vineyard is one of the premier vineyards in the state.

◆ The deep purple hue of our Reserve Merlot lives up to its varietal name, which means "little blackbird." On the nose, complex aromas glide through the senses, marked by baked cherry, black current, licorice and caramel. Wonderfully balanced, the wine's smooth entry is bolstered by blackberry, ripe plum and toffee flavors, which anchor the cassis and bright raspberry that flits across the palate and through the finish. This well-developed interplay of rich flavors and refined nuances displays a pure expression of Merlot, representative of this special growing area.

Canyon's Edge Winery

Located near Mabton, WA. Our vineyard is located in the newly designated Horse Heaven Hills AVA, widely recognized as one of Washington's top AVAs in the production of very high quality wine grapes. We currently have approximately 300 acres in production growing eight varietals, cabernet franc, sauvignon blanc, petit verdot, merlot, malbec, sangiovese, syrah and cabernet sauvignon with plans for bringing up to another 400 acres into production.

Aldercreek Vineyard marks the Southern boundary of the Horse Heaven Hills AVA. We are only sixteen miles West of Columbia Crest Winery at Paterson and a scant five miles north of the Columbia River. This 16 mile stretch has close to 8000 acres in production of wine grapes which constitutes approximately 30% of Washington state wine grape production, a significant harvest amount in view of Washington State being second only to California in the nation's production of quality wine grapes. Our vineyards are located in an area having a unique micro climate with several growing characteristics that help in producing superior quality fruit.

One of our site's biggest prizes is Alder Canyon which runs along the entire one and a half mile long Northern boundary of our property. Wild flowers blanket the canyon walls and crest providing beautiful vistas and it is filled with abundant wildlife and the sunrises and sunsets can only be described as stunning.

◆ Jeremiah's Chocolate Port - A rich and fruity Syrah blended with chocolate flavoring to create a very unique and delicious port. Rarely have we come across such an enticing wine as this one. This masterful winemaker's creative, "he made a mighty fine wine," captures the warm and subtle essence of this port from first sip to last. This fine syrah port wine is a joy to drink, and will be revered for years to come.

Cougar Crest Estate Winery

Located in Walla Walla, WA. Cougar Crest Estate Winery was established at the Walla Walla Airport in 2001. Cougar Hills Vineyard is located a quarter mile west of Stellar Vineyard and is a stone's throw from the site of the original Seven Hills Vineyard planted 28 years ago that began the Walla Walla legacy of quality vineyards. As the name implies, there is a hill in this vineyard. The elevation is 800 feet at the base and rises to 830 at the top of the hill. The soil type here is much like that of Stellar Vineyard with Ritzville loam, gravel, and river rock. A layer of volcanic ash is also present about 3 feet below the surface and is a valuable source of nutrients for the vines. The laboratory experts say the ash probably came from Mount Mazama when it blew up and created Crater Lake.

◆ Syrah – A rich blast of blueberries, black currants, anise, spice and white pepper greets the senses. The palate is a tightrope balancing fruit, tannins, and acidity deftly with viscosity and silky mouthfeel. This wine finishes with subtle butterscotch, leather, and an earthiness that gives in the guts to be paired with smoked meats, hearty stews, lamb, and wild game. This Syrah is from the same vineyard as our 2002 Syrah that placed 33rd in the world by *Wine Spectator*.

◆ Vigonier – Aromas of honeysuckle, white peach, and melon prepare the palate for a juicy melange of pear, pineapple, citrus and honeydew. Stainless steel and non-malolatic fermentation allow for a crisp finish, with a honey-like mouthfeel.

Dunham Cellars

Located in Walla Walla, WA. Using grapes from some of the finest vineyards in the Walla Walla, Yakima and Columbia Valleys, Dunham Cellars has established an award-winning reputation for their wines. When Eric's first vintage, a 1995 cabernet sauvignon was released, it was deemed one of the finest wines made in Washington by *Wine Enthusiast Magazine*. Subsequent vintages and varietals have also earned high marks with both wine writers and consumers. Eric shows his artistic side by creating original artworks for all of Dunham Cellars' vineyard-designated and special bottlings. The winery makes its home in a rustic, remodeled World War II era airplane hangar in Walla Walla, and the future looks promising for Dunham Cellars. The family-owned winery continues to increase production and wine varietals, and has planted estate vineyards in prime locations around the Walla Walla Valley.

◆ Syrah – Did you notice the Dunham Road sign on your way north to the RimRock? Relatives of the Wallowa County Dunhams produce this fine wine. Bright huckleberry, black cherry, sweet tobacco and pomegranate in the nose, linger with unctuous bands of cassis and mocha to make a well-balanced palate.

◆ Trutina – Lush and soft with ripe mountain berries, sweet tobacco and a hint of allspice. Built to age, but very approachable now.

◆ Three Legged Red – Each year, Dunham Cellars blends a portion of its wines into this red table wine. Using fruit from some of Washington's finest vineyards and using the same barrels in which our finest Cabernet, Merlots and Syrahs are aged, we are able to maintain the consistent high quality of our top wine, as well as create a great everyday wine that is price-friendly. This wine is tribute to Port, pet and companion of our winemaker Eric Dunham. The story goes something like this..."It was a sunny day in the summer of '94 when I met Port. Outside I heard the distinct sound of an animal in distress. It took only moments to realize what was happening across the field from my house - a very small animal had fallen into harm's way and was being attacked by a pit bull. I ran to the scene, broke up the fight and found that the small animal was a puppy that was very badly injured. Instinctively, I wrapped him up and took him to the veterinarian. I agreed to pay for the emergency surgery and recovery. The puppy had lost a leg, but found a home. With only three legs, and two on the port side, I named him Port, and he is my best friend."

Eola Hills

Located in Rickreall, OR. Situated in a natural weather shadow of the Coast Range, which shunts storms from the Pacific Ocean north to Portland and south below Salem, the Eola Hills vineyards are protected from weather extremes. Yet in summer, a gorge carved by ancient glaciers draws in maritime air to provide ideal cooling for sensitive varieties in those warmer months.

◆ Pinot Gris – Fresh Bartlett pears come to mind when you first inhale the delicious aroma. At first taste, it is light, refreshing, and a little fruity with a little spritz on the finish, this wine is delicious with wild sockeye salmon. This pinot gris was made exclusively from grapes grown in the Willamette Valley and aged only in stainless steel to allow the fruit flavors to come forward. It is similar in style to the pinot grigios from Italy.

◆ Pinot Noir – The gentle flavors of cherries and strawberries and light silky finish caused Steve Anderson, Eola's Head Winemaker to say 2007 will be one of the best vintages! Try this pinot noir with lamb, pork, or fish ... this pinot will go with just about anything!

◆ Raspberry Vin d'Ete – Ripe Oregon raspberries are crushed and then inoculated. During fermentation, spirits are added to stop the fermentation much like the process of Port. This results in a wine which is simply the essence of raspberries. The perfume *explodes*, the initial flavor is *powerful* and the finish is *incredible*!

Erath (EE-rath)

Located in Dundee, OR. Erath wines are an expression of the land that this winery has cultivated for over 40 years. A unique terroir full of iron-rich soils and a mild-temperate climate has given rise to the handcrafting phenomenon, and the art of Pinot. Disciplined in approach, yet progressive in artistry, our winemaker, Gary Horner, strives to reveal the very best expression of classic Oregon pinot; light, delicate and fruit-forward. As the winery enters its fourth decade of winemaking, Erath embraces its leadership role in producing exceptional Pinot; wines that reflect the prestige of the region and honor its rich history.

◆ Pinot Noir – Black cherry aromas, underscored by sweet mandarin orange greet the nose as warm, clove-laced vanilla waft gently among subtle hints of anise and caramel. The wine opens on the palate with more hints of sweet black cherry, which flow seamlessly into a supple silkiness. So versatile with food - fish, fowl, beef, and pasta ...

Please note that this wine is sealed with a twist cap closure.

Forgeron Cellars

Located in Walla Walla, WA. After earning her Master's degree in enology and viticulture at the University of Dijon, Marie-Eve Gilla received practical training at local Burgundian wineries and vineyards. In 1991, she came to the United States to further her winemaking experience. Intending to stay for just a few months, she realized the incredible opportunities available in the wine industry. Now after more than ten years of making premium wines in the Northwest, she has come to appreciate the incredible growing conditions we enjoy in Eastern Washington. Forgeron Cellars contracts with vineyards strategically located over the large Columbia Valley appellation and smaller appellations within. Our focus; reflect the quality of grapes from the best sites to reveal the full potential of Washington State vineyards.

◆ Zinfandel – One look at the amazing dark plum color in your glass and you will know this is going to be exquisite. The aromas are intense with licorice, blackberries, cloves and white pepper. In the mouth, cherry compote and blueberry notes are followed by a long spicy finish. Our zinfandel is a huge favorite among those in the know and we always sell out early every year, so don't wait too long to stock your cellar.

14 Hands

Located in Paterson, WA. Crafted from premium grapes in the heart of Washington, 14 Hands is a special find. Named after the wild horses that once made their home on the land upon which 14 Hands grapes are grown, the wine retains the individual spirit of its namesake.

- ◆ Cabernet Sauvignon – Aromas of cherries and currants with subtle hints of spice and dried herbs. Fresh flavors of red fruit are complemented by a touch of cocoa and accentuated by fine, round tannins.
- ◆ Merlot – Ripe fruit flavors are joined by subtle toast and mocha nuances. While soft and approachable, this wine maintains a sturdy frame of tannins.
- ◆ Chardonnay – This fruit-driven chardonnay offers aromas of freshly sliced apples and pears with a subtle floral lift. Judicious use of oak enhances structure and adds a hint of complexity without disguising the bright fruit flavors typical of Washington State. Balanced and juicy, this wine can stand alone as an aperitif or partners well with seafood, chicken or pasta with cream sauce.

Henry Estate Winery

Located in Umpqua, OR. Henry Estate Winery is steeped in family tradition. Five generations of the Henry family have farmed the Umpqua Valley, and currently three generations run the estate. The Henrys have made Henry Estate Winery one of the best known Oregon wineries for pinot noir, pinot gris, chardonnay, gewürztraminer, and white riesling. The winery is nestled in Southwest Oregon's Umpqua Valley next to the Umpqua River, where the climate and soil type are ideal for growing varietal grapes such as the pinot noir, pinot gris, chardonnay, white riesling and müller-thurgau. Located near the 45th parallel, the Umpqua Valley climate is similar to the Burgundy region in France.

- ◆ Pinot Noir – Our 2006 vintage of pinot noir is another shining example of this varietal that reflects the unique character of Oregon-grown pinot noir grapes. The aromas of sweet cherry, black pepper mixed with light, toasty overtones of earth and mint from the oak aging, compliment the overall ambiance of this wine. The lingering, forward finish allows our Oregon pinot noir to be matched with a variety of dishes such as beef, lamb, duck and most fish, especially salmon. The fruit flavors were pronounced enough at bottling to give a true enjoyable pinot noir experience immediately as well. This wine should be served proudly knowing it is a true expression of this noble grape grown in the great state of Oregon!

Huck Huckleberry Wine

One of the best kept secrets in Wallowa County is where to huckleberry. We'll never tell our favorite spots, but we will share this excellent and fun sweet wine with you! From the high elevations of the Cascade Mountain Range to the sunlit valleys below, Washington's greatest gifts from Mother Nature abound: the huckleberry, blackberry and the wine grape. Huck combines the sweetly tart flavors of the huckleberry or blackberry with the crisp acidity found in the best of Washington wines to make a premium blend appealing to all. Like Huck Finn himself, these berries remain wild and undomesticated and thrive in climates where adventure awaits. Awake your childlike thirst for exploration with Huck. Drinkers beware: Don't feed the bears.

L'Ecole No. 41 (leh-COLE)

Located in Lowden, WA. L'Ecole No. 41 has been producing premium, handcrafted varietal wines in the Walla Walla Valley since 1983 in the historic Frenchtown School in Lowden, Washington. A family-owned business, L'Ecole No. 41 was founded by Jean and Baker Ferguson. Today, the winery is owned and operated by their daughter and son-in-law, Megan and Martin Clubb. Built in 1915, the schoolhouse is located in historic Frenchtown, a small community just west of Walla Walla, Washington. Frenchtown derived its name from the many French-Canadians who settled the valley during the early 1800s. Legend has it these men of French descent were raising grapes and producing wine. By the 1860s, nurseries, vineyards and winemaking had become a part of the region's growing economy. The name - L'Ecole No. 41, French for "the school" located in district number 41 - was chosen to salute these pioneer viticulture efforts.

L'Ecole No. 41 is a partner in the acclaimed Seven Hills Vineyard located in the Walla Walla Valley Appellation. Approximately 35% of our production comes from Seven Hills Vineyard, in which we are co-partners with Leonetti Cellar and Pepper Bridge Winery. The vineyard was originally planted in 1981 and has been expanded to more than 200 acres, including merlot, cabernet sauvignon, syrah, and semillon. Pepper Bridge, another reputable Walla Walla Valley vineyard, exercises similar high quality viticultural practices to those of Seven Hills. The original 10 acres were planted in 1991 and have been expanded over the years to more than 180 acres. L'Ecole No. 41 was the first winery to produce wines from Pepper Bridge Vineyard. We currently hold acreage contracts on 15 acres of vines, providing specifications on pruning, yield, canopy management, irrigation, thinning and harvest timing. The remaining 50% of our production comes from long established relationships with proven Columbia Valley vineyards such as Klipsun, Bacchus and Dionysus, Milbrandt, Porteus, Fair Acre Farms, Wahluké Slope Vineyards and Willard

Farms. Many of these vineyards were planted in the 1970's or early 1980's, giving us an average vine age for example on our Columbia Valley cabernet sauvignon of about 25 years.

◆ Ferguson – The winemaker considers the 2004 vintage of Ferguson to be the best wine ever produced by the winery. The remaining stock of this vintage is available nowhere on earth except at the RimRock Inn. This densely extracted, mature and dark fruited wine shows lots of spice, blackberry, plum and earthy tobacco on a firmly structured, viscous finish. This reserve bottling was designed for long-term aging.

◆ Semillion – Remarkably brilliant with rich fruit and balanced acidity, this wine shows fragrant citrus blossom, tangerine and floral aromas, with melon, fresh apple, pear, lychee nut and key-lime flavors on a honeysuckle mineral-rich finish.

◆ Seven Hills Vineyard Estate Merlot – L'Ecole No 41 is indisputably best known for Merlot - their principle red since 1983! Fermentation control is carried out in a traditional Bordeaux style, with small lots punched down by hand for optimal color and flavor extraction. Your encounter with the 2005 Seven Hills Vineyard Estate merlot begins with beautiful, rich, seductive aromatics that will have your nose revisiting the glass time and time again even before you experience the elegant dark fruit flavors of black cherry, blueberry, and blackberry touched with cocoa on a long lingering finish.

◆ Recess Red – This hearty red wine is in part comprised of the hard press fractions of each of our vineyard lots, including some of our best vineyard sites. As a result, many customers view this table wine as the 'bargain' from L'Ecole No 41 (formerly known in the Pacific Northwest as Schoolhouse Red).

Made in Oregon Cellars - see Willamette Valley

Magnificent Wine Co.

Located in Walla Walla, WA. Winemaker Charles Smith is best known for his cult Walla Walla winery, K Vintners, which is widely celebrated for producing some of the finest Syrahs in America. Originally from Northern California, Charles came to Walla Walla, Washington via Europe to make great wine. The Magnificent Wine Company sources its grapes from only the (most) magnificent vineyards throughout the Columbia Valley which provides the freedom to tailor grape selection exactly to Charles' winemaking needs ensuring that each bottle of wine is equally magnificent from vintage to vintage.

◆ House Wine, Red and White – HOUSE WINE is wine for the people. It's about enjoying great wine every day. HOUSE Red (predominantly cabernet) and HOUSE White (predominantly chardonnay) are robust and complex, yet surprisingly approachable. This is a far cry from what we've come to expect from a house pour!

MI CASA ES SU CASA - MY HOUSE IS YOUR HOUSE.

Maryhill Winery

Located near Goldendale, WA – Nearly a century before the entrepreneurial Leuthold family broke ground on the Maryhill Winery site, the breathtakingly beautiful lands bordering the Columbia River drew another entrepreneur – Sam Hill. In 1907, millionaire attorney and road builder Hill purchased 5,300 acres of land along the Columbia River and set out to build an independent farming community named after his wife, Mary. Unfortunately, unanticipated problems like the need for irrigation soon deflated Hill's dream and the community dissipated. Construction on the Hill family mansion stopped in 1917, which was later established as the Maryhill Museum. In 1999, Craig and Vicki Leuthold established Maryhill Winery and set out to produce premier wines on the land adjacent to where Hill sought to fulfill his dream years before.

◆ WineMaker's Red – This is the wine that put Maryhill Winery on the map. This beautiful wine introduces itself dressed in beautiful claret color. It carries on its conversation with notes of cherries infused with caramel and hints of boysenberry. With its silky voice and smooth finish, this congenial companion will comfortably blend in with any occasion. Like its past vintages this award winning wine continues to be a crowd pleaser.

◆ Chardonnay – An elegant chardonnay that begins with clean aromas of soft apple, light pineapple and nectarine. Hints of toasty vanilla lead to a palate filled with poached peaches, vanilla bean and a deeper essence of pineapple. The long, dry finish is laced with whispers of tropical fruit and delicate creme caramel.

Northstar Winery

Located in Walla Walla, WA. Northstar aims to make Merlots that can be considered among the world's best, using fruit sourced from one of the world's best regions for Merlot: Washington State. Merlot is the best selling red grape variety in America. Merlot-based wines from Bordeaux's Pomerol region are generally the most expensive and sought-after wines in the world. Blending New World fruit with an Old World winemaking style, influenced by Bordeaux's "right bank," Northstar creates merlots that are among the most highly acclaimed in the world.

◆ Stella Maris – This medium-bodied, approachable wine opens with aromatics of blueberry and raspberry. Each varietal in the final blend contributes concentrated fruit and layers of flavors including blueberry, white pepper, bright red fruit, and a bit of orange zest. Enjoy!

Pölka Dot, Pfalz, Germany

◆ Reisling – The enormous ripeness and concentration of fruit has produced a high quality wine superbly balanced by vibrant, harmonious acidity. Careful selection of the grapes promises a full-flavored Pölka Dot vintage that is fruit driven, refreshing and well structured with pronounced minerality. This wine displays a brilliant, white gold and aromas of lime and citrus fruit. On the palate there are soft fruit flavors of green apple, lime and citrus with mineral notes. The crisp acidity balances the sweetness for a clean, yet lingering finish.

Rainier Ridge

Located in Seattle, WA – An icon of Washington's dynamic landscape, Mt. Rainier towers above the state at 14,410 feet. Like the mountain for which they are named, Rainier Ridge wines embody the rich Washington terrain responsible for producing some of the world's finest vinifera grapes. Sourced from Washington's famed Columbia Valley and bursting with dark berry and tropical fruit, Rainier Ridge chardonnay and cabernet sauvignon deliver grandiose flavors at a modest price.

◆ Cabernet Sauvignon – Welcoming aromas of spice and strawberry jam lead to a palate filled with ripe berry flavors. Light smoke gives way to well rounded tannins and a smooth finish.

◆ Chardonnay – Bright tropical aromas lead to juicy apricots and peaches rounded out by citrus notes. Integrated oak marries with hints of caramel and lingering fruit on the finish. *Wine Spectator*: 85 points.

Saviah Cellars (suh-VIE-uh)

Located near Walla, Walla WA. Saviah Cellars is a family-owned and operated artisan winery located in the acclaimed Walla Walla Valley of southeastern Washington. The winery specializes in producing small quantities of ultra-premium wines that showcase the remarkable qualities of Washington's finest vineyards. Founded in 2000, the winery's first vintage was only 300 cases. Today, the winery produces approximately 5,500 cases of wine per year. Each one of Saviah Cellars' wines is a reflection of the land from which it originated. By selecting vineyards with unique characteristics, or terroir, within the Walla Walla Valley, Columbia Valley, Yakima Valley and Red Mountain appellations, we are able to create rich, artfully balanced wines with intense varietal character.

◆ The Jack – A cigar, a game of poker and this wine = life is good! This wine has appealing aromas of black cherries, raspberries, plum and spices with a touch of oak. The Jack is a friendly wine offering a mouthful of juicy fruit flavors that are complemented by fine tannins.

◆ Une Vallée (OU-nuh vuh-LAY) – The 2006 vintage will not disappoint you. Our Une Vallée is a classic Left Bank Bordeaux-style blend that begins with powerful scents of baking spices, subtle floral notes and an abundance of berries. It is a full-bodied wine that offers layers of seductive ripe black cherry and red berry fruit flavors with supple, sweet tannins. The finish is smooth and lingering, and very satisfying.

◆ Star Meadows – Liquid summer...this classic white Bordeaux-style blend starts with brisk aromas of white peach, apricot, minerals and a hint of citrus. Rich and layered, this delicious wine is mouthwateringly fresh and crisp on the palate, with a long pretty finish. Serve it slightly chilled for a wonderful aperitif. The Star Meadows is also an excellent pairing with salads and seafood.

Seven Hills Winery

Seven Hills Winery is located in the heart of Walla Walla, Washington. Though it has built its reputation quietly, Seven Hills is one of the region's oldest and most respected wineries. Founder Casey McClellan has played an important role in both the viticultural and winemaking history of the community. As a fourth-generation farmer, Casey worked alongside his father in the early 1980s, planting Walla Walla Valley's Seven Hills Vineyard—a site that has gained recognition as one of the Northwest's grand cru properties. As a winemaker, Casey has guided Seven Hills Winery, creating wines that have emerged as benchmarks for excellence in the Northwest. When Casey and Vicky McClellan founded Seven Hills Winery in 1988, Washington's Walla Walla Valley was an area of rich, untapped viticultural promise. In those early days, the McClellans were part of a small, visionary group of vintners who believed in the vast potential of Washington State winemaking. As forerunners of today's thriving Walla Walla Valley winemaking community, the McClellans and Seven Hills Winery have championed the Northwest's most renowned appellations and vineyards, while helping to establish the region's growing status as a home for world-class wines. Over the course of two decades, Seven Hills Winery has been part of many firsts for the Walla Walla Valley appellation (AVA). Recognized for its Bordeaux-varietal red wines, Seven Hills has bottled more vineyard-designate Cabernet Sauvignons and Merlots from the AVA than any other winery. At the same time, Seven Hills Winery has helped pioneer the rich diversity of the region, and its potential for producing an array of stellar red and white wines. In this spirit, Seven Hills Winery bottled the Walla Walla Valley's first varietally labeled malbec, and planted its first tempranillo.

◆ Columbia Valley Cabernet Sauvignon – We again have sourced the fruit from diverse, complementary sites within the Columbia Valley. This is a medium-bodied red of deep purple-black color. The nose shows exuberant blackberry with accents of vanilla and sweet spice. These follow through on the palate, which is soft, sweet and bright. The finish is persistent and fruitful. The wine is complex, accessible and a delightful, balanced Cabernet. I believe it also represents an outstanding level of quality and value. I would estimate that it will age very well for up to 6-8 years if properly cellared.

◆ Pinot Gris – Hand harvested, low yield fruit from an older site in the Umpqua's cooler marine-influenced climate define this ripe pinot gris with bright acidity. Whole-cluster pressed and fermented on Chanson yeast in stainless steel, this wine shows a brilliant lemon-straw color. The aroma and palate are of citrus, pear, spearmint and fresh-cracked hazelnut, and subtle sweet oak spice and vanillin to round out the profile. Finished dry, there is an intense fruitiness promoting a harmony with the crisp finish. This pinot gris should age well over the next two years, and is a perfect match with seafood of all types, and refreshing on its own as well.

◆ Riesling – Sourced from a cooler, northern vineyard to foster a fresh brightness and two very old Yakima Valley sites for depth and richness. A graceful, balanced riesling with low alcohol and brilliant straw color. With abundant lime, green apple and mineral notes, softened by ripe lychee, it follows our traditional style of light sweetness with a crisp, clean finish. While riesling ages very well, this is a wine meant to be enjoyed within two years of release. The 100% Stelvin closure lot keeps the wine in optimal sensory condition throughout its life in the bottle. Choose this versatile wine for a variety of occasions.

◆ Tempranillo – Our fourth bottling of the rare Spanish varietal, tempranillo, which has only recently been grown in Washington's wine grape growing regions. The grapes are sourced from two distinct sites: one, on a south-facing gravelly slope near Mattawa. The other is a terrace of silt loam in the Walla Walla Valley. Both are among the oldest plantings in the Northwest. The fruit was hand-picked under ideal weather conditions. The tempranillo exhibits a medium-bodied, ripe, accessible style. It shows cherry fruit, with exotic hints of smoke, savory herb and rose petal notes. Vanillin and subtle spice add complexity. Sweet, bright fruit by mouth, with a clean finish, and mild, dry tannins.

Shea Wine Cellars

Located near Newburg, OR. Shea Wine Cellars is the winemaking effort of grape growers Dick and Deirdre Shea. After ten years of selling all our grape production we decided to create our own expression of Shea Vineyard terroir. We now use 25% of Shea Vineyard's production for our own effort and sell the remaining grapes to some of the finest Pinot noir producers in Oregon and California. At Shea Wine Cellars it is our intention to continue to make small quantities of world class pinot noir and chardonnay. Shea Vineyard was first planted to wine grapes in the late 1980s. Today Shea Vineyard is a 200-acre property with 140 planted acres. 135 of these acres are planted to pinot noir vines and the balance is planted to chardonnay.

◆ Shea Vineyard Chardonnay – This chardonnay displays lots of the ripe fruit that is characteristic of the 2006 vintage. You are first greeted by aromas of honeysuckle and tangerines and find Asian pear and citrus on the palate, leading to a minerality that complete a very refined package.

◆ Shea Vinyard Pinot Noir – We consider this one of our absolute favorites - ever - in the pinot noir category. It's a stunning blend of Shea Estates' best vineyards. Even they were shocked by the wine's depth and complexity. This pinot has a wonderful bouquet that fills the room. It is a concentrated pinot with a strong perfume of blackberries and rose petals. Refined tannins provide structure for a complex mix of blue and black fruit on the palette. It was a ripe vintage uninterrupted by rain at harvest and this wine shows it.

Sineann (shuh-NAY-inn)

Located near Newburg, OR. Sineann is a small producer of highly intense wine in Yamhill County, Oregon. We source our fruit from some of the best vineyards in the region; pinot noir and pinot gris from the Willamette Valley and the Hood River Valley, cabernet, merlot and zinfandel from the Columbia Valley, gewüztraminer from the Columbia Gorge. We've started making wine from the Napa Valley. (We hear it is a world class winegrowing region.) We also make wine in New Zealand - pinot noir and sauvignon blanc. Making wine in only one hemisphere is so boring...

Our growers have great pride in the grapes they provide us. Almost all our wines are vineyard designated. No expense is spared in our pursuit of great wine. Crop levels are kept very low, one to three tons per acre. Winemaking is meticulous. All fruit is hand sorted, delicately destemmed, punched down by hand, gently pressed and gravity racked. The wines are aged in new and one-year-old French oak. The bottom line is we strive to make great wine. It's the only kind of wine that makes it onto our dinner table. It's exciting to make and gratifying to share. We believe that food and drink, lovingly prepared, make for happier and healthier people.

◆ Gewüztraminer – This wine has great balance. A nice floral Gewüztraminer nose carries a touch of tropical passion fruit and exotic spices. In the mouth, flavors of apple and pear with a seductive rose petal flavor that lingers on a light frame. There isn't much nuance here - just a total Gewüztraminer party, which in itself is pretty nice. Pair this wine with seared scallops with truffle oil or a squash soup flavored with curry powder. Your mouth will tingle.

◆ Old Ball & Chain – This is a late-harvest Syrah from the McDermott family's 'Scorched Earth Vineyard' outside of The Dalles, Oregon. Pop open a bottle, sit down and settle in. Like a ball and chain, you ain't goin' nowhere. This is a blackberry pie in a bottle with a touch of cinnamon. Red cherry and red licorice flavors linger at the back of the palate that just keeps on delivering. Dried plums and even a touch of apricot pulse through this dessert wine making it an extremely complex elixir that will last for years in the bottle. Eight percent residual sugar and 14.5% alcohol.

◆ Oregon – Silky in texture and fragrant with berry. There's a sense of elegance in the way this plays out its cream-accented blackberry and cherry flavors, persisting gently on the polished finish. There is not much else to be said. Oregon Pinot Noir speaks for itself.

Terra Blanca

Located near Benton City, WA. Terra Blanca Winery and Estate Vineyards sit on 300 acres of Red Mountain, a treeless mountain in the arid, sunny desert of eastern Washington. The area around eastern Washington has turned into one of the world's most exciting regions for wine grape growing and winemaking. The reason? Our Terra Blanca. The high levels of calcium carbonate, commonly known as chalk, that settled out of the ebbing floodwaters thousands of years ago into the soils of Terra Blanca's Red Mountain Estate Vineyard have proven to be an invaluable asset to the quality of our wines. It's our Terra Blanca.

◆ Killer Red Syrah – The 2004 Killer Red Syrah is a sophistication of seriousness and reserve, playfulness and irony. We think we know all about it, but yet its characteristics veil a fascinating hidden self. It is private, yet accessible. Dangerous, yet harmless. Robust, intense, firm, yet delicate, temperate and gentle ... killer red. Full of dark berry flavors, overwhelmingly soft on the finish, curvy and smooth all at the same time. And, easy on the palette and the pocketbook!

◆ Sauvignon Blanc – Sauvignon Blanc, the noble white grape from the Bordeaux region, is a favorite match with much of the lighter cuisine popular today. Terra Blanca's 2007 Sauvignon Blanc is a wine intended to compliment food. This wine exhibits concentrated citrus flavors dominated by ripe grapefruit with hints of lemon, melon, and tropical fruit. Balancing the fresh fruit flavors is a firm backbone of bright acidity. Preserved with cold fermentation in stainless steel, our Sauvignon Blanc has a refreshingly clean finish. Pair this wine with shellfish, white sauce pastas, chicken, and fish.

Three Rivers Winery

Located near Walla Walla, WA. In 1999, owners of Three Rivers Winery broke ground on the 16-acre site that is now home to our 18,000 sq. ft. facility. Set atop a small knoll overlooking the surrounding vineyards and Mill Creek, the winery features stunning views of the Blue Mountains in the distance and the nearby Whitman Mission. The name Three Rivers represents the three most prominent rivers in the appellations from which our winery sources its grapes—the Columbia, Snake, and Walla Walla Rivers. Every winemaker knows that great wines are made in the vineyard and that he or she should do everything possible to work with the vineyard owners to produce premium grapes. Winemaker Holly Turner has been fortunate to have worked with fruit from nearly all parts of the vast Columbia Valley Appellation, thus developing a winemaking philosophy which is well suited to our area. Each growing area in the Columbia Valley has its own unique characteristics that contribute to making the wines distinctive. The French use the term "terroir," which refers to the factors at each growing site that contribute to making the wines unique. These factors include the soil type, irrigation management, canopy management, cropping levels, and overall climate. Occasionally, the grapes from an individual vineyard will be of such superb quality that they warrant being bottled separate from other vineyards to showcase the resulting wine. Holly strongly believes that the blending of grapes from several different vineyards will most often result in the most superb wines possible. At Three Rivers, we utilize blending to maximize wine quality whenever warranted. Blending of wines is analogous to cooking with herbs. When used alone, herbs can enhance the flavor of most foods, but when several herbs are used in combination they can result in a superb culinary dish. Three Rivers uses grapes from many different areas within the Columbia Valley Appellation, including high quality vineyards in both the Lower Columbia and Walla Walla Valley sub-Appellations. Several of these vineyards were recently planted and will not produce a usable crop for several years. We continue to source grapes from a wide array of vineyards in several diverse geographic zones.

- ◆ White Meritage – Like biting into an Asian pear, the lemon tart flavors explode on the palate. Sur lie aging for 10 months in small French oak barrels adds depth to the finish.

Waterbrook

Waterbrook Winery, founded in the acclaimed Walla Walla Valley by Eric and Janet Rindal, has been offering a fabulous selection of premium, award winning wines since 1984. Our name was chosen to complement the translation from Nez Perce Indian dialect for the name Walla Walla, meaning "running water". The winery is best known for its super premium wines and its picturesque tasting room located on Main Street in the popular downtown Walla Walla. Waterbrook's wines are crafted by winemaker John Freeman who was raised in the Napa Valley and now calls Walla Walla home, after the unspoiled landscape and exciting potential of the region won him over. Cabernet sauvignon and melange noir blend lay claim to Waterbrook's most popular red varieties

- ◆ Melange Noir – Aromas of cedar, spice and dark stone fruit are a warm welcome. Black cherry and plum notes marry with delicious flavors of dark chocolate and toasted oak. Balanced tannins and lingering fruit round out the finish. *Wine Spectator*: 89 points.
- ◆ Sauvignon Blanc – Fresh aromas of citrus, lemon grass and caramel apples swirl around in the glass. Bright green grass and hints of granny smith apples marry with subtle notes of oak, bright acidity on the finish.

Waving Tree Winery

Located near Goldendale, WA. One of the only wineries in America to very successfully grow and produce sangiovese. This very small winery in the beautiful Columbia Gorge is not very well known...yet.

- ◆ Sangiovese – Smell the roses, red cherries and a touch of cinnamon. The cherry flavor continues all the way through this medium bodied wine. Long finish.

Whitman Cellars

Located near Walla Walla, WA, Whitman Cellars are crafters of traditional Bordeaux and Rhone-style wines of balance and expression of terroir. Fruit is sourced from 19 different vineyard blocks in the Walla Walla and Red Mountain appellations and kept in separate barrel lots until blending trials are complete. These appellations offer a wide range of flavor profiles which we use to blend the portrait of a finished wine - like colors to paint a picture. We are truly a boutique winery with a production level at approximately 5,000 cases/year.

◆ Narcissa – This robust Bordeaux-style blend is multi-layered with tobacco, coffee, leather, cherry, blackberry, and white pepper. The wine is inviting with soft, round acidity, a rich mid-palate and long balanced tannins on the finish. Enjoy this wine with red meat or tomato-based dishes for the next five years. *Wine Enthusiast*: 90 points.

Willamette Valley

Located near Turner, OR. Our mission in growing cool-climate varieties is to create elegant, classic Oregon wines from the Willamette Valley Appellation. As native Oregonians, we treasure our environment and use sustainable practices in growing and vinifying our winegrapes. The Company produces and sells small quantities of Oregon's Nog (a seasonal holiday product) and Edelweiss under a Made in Oregon Cellars label.

◆ Edelweiss – Sweet, enchantingly light and cold-fermented to preserve fruitiness. This delicious blend of white grapes is fresh and explosive with flavor.

◆ Pinot Gris – Bright, fruity, crisp style, with pretty aromas of fresh young pear, starfruit, grapefruit, honeydew and flower. Bold and crisp mouthfeel with generous flavors of pear, mineral, tangerine and spice, weave with well-balanced acidity. The pinot blanc, picked very ripe, adds emollient mouthfeel, and contributes to the Alsatian style. While the muscat adds flowery sweetness, the barrel fermented portions of the pinot gris add a kiss of toast and richness.

◆ Pinot Noir – The 2007 pinot noir has sweet, delicate aromas of raspberries and red cherries with hints of cocoa and toast. The sweet and tart flavors of ripe, red cherries and raspberries are accented by hints of vanilla and white pepper spice. An elegant pinot noir with delicate round tannins and nicely-balanced acidity that lingers into the silky finish.

Woodward Canyon

Located in Lowden, WA. Located in the Walla Walla Valley appellation of Washington State, Woodward Canyon Winery was started in 1981 by Rick Small and his wife, Darcey Fugman-Small. Since that time, the winery has consistently produced premium, award-winning cabernet sauvignons and merlots as well as chardonnays. Marginal fruit, even in the hands of the most adept winemaker, can only make wines of middling quality. Along with our 41-acre Estate Vineyard in the Walla Walla Valley, we source fruit from a handful of well-established Washington state growers whose grapes have proven over the course of the years to provide the best possible material for winemaking. Woodward Canyon is also a joint owner of Champoux Vineyard, one of the older vineyards in the State. We are in the business of making the best wines we can possibly create. It can be technically difficult, sometimes tiring, and occasionally costly, but by putting quality above all else, secondary concerns become, well, secondary. We drink wine with food; in fact, the next winery barbecue or wood-fired pizza day is all we often talk about. Our goal is to create wines that show their very best when part of a shared meal, and so our wines strive to be structured and compelling, rather than overextracted and tiresome. It is our hope that the last drops of a bottle of Woodward Canyon will be as enticing as the first taste.

◆ Artist Series Cabernet Sauvignon – This wine has a generous nose of spicy oak and cedar integrated with ripe black fruits and cherry. A sweet, rich mouthfeel begins with cassis and ripe black berry leading towards chocolate and mocha. The finish is complex, generous and long. While this wine can be enjoyed now it will definitely benefit from additional cellaring, and with proper storage should develop for eight years or more.