

Owl Ridge Wines

2002 Cabernet Sauvignon

Dry Creek Valley

T. R. Passalacqua Vineyard

Situated in the western hills above Sonoma County's Dry Creek Valley, the T. R. Passalacqua Vineyard produces some of the best Cabernet Sauvignon in Northern California. This vineyard receives full daytime sun with cool night air, an ideal combination to develop the intense fruit flavors that characterize this wine.

Harvest was on September 23, 2002. The sky was clear and the air was cool and crisp. The fruit was harvested by hand and sorted in the field.

During fermentation, winemaker Joe Otos achieved maximum extraction of flavors and soft tannins while minimizing harsh tannins associated with the seeds. The resulting wine is intense, but balanced.

After fermentation, Joe barrel-aged the wine in 100% premium French oak, with 35% new barrels, principally tight-grained oak from the best French forests. The final wine is richly flavored with black currant and blackberry flavors and hints of cocoa, cured tobacco leaf and anise. The entry is sweet with a silky middle. Overall, the wine is rich, seductive and well structured. It has a relatively high acidity which makes it ideal to drink with strongly flavored meats. This wine has aged beautifully since bottling and we think that it will hold up well for many years. To promote this long aging potential we have selected a heavy bottle and sealed it with an extremely long cork (54mm).

About 600 cases were produced. The alcohol content is 14.3%. It is available in 375ml, 750 ml, 1.5L and 3L bottles.



Critics Gold Award – 2005 Critics Challenge International Wine Comp. **Gold Medal** – 2006 West Coast Wine Competition