

L'Ecole No 41

2005 Seven Hills Vineyard Estate Syrah

Walla Walla Valley Appellation

Awards and Acclaims

Wine Spectator

Score: 91 points

Date Reviewed: March 31, 2008

"Broad and ripe, with juicy blackberry and plum flavors up front, weaving in peppery, smoky crème brûlée notes as the fruit persists on the polished finish. Drink now through 2013." – H.S.

Wine & Spirits

Score: 91 points

Year's Best Syrah...with a fresh new look

Date Reviewed: February 2008

"This inky syrah needs a day to show its face, eventually revealing scents of leather, hints of meat, tanbark, fig and black currant. Its flavors are reticent, and are likely to reward cellaring – at least a year – before serving with a roast pork loin." – Patrick Comiskey

Wine Advocate

Score: 90 points

Date Reviewed: August 31, 2007

"The 2005 Syrah – Seven Hills Estate spent 18 months in 35% new French oak. Dark ruby in color, it offers up classic Syrah aromas of bacon, sausage, blueberry, and black cherry. This is followed by a full-bodied, supple, layered wine with soft, ripe tannins and excellent balance. It has nicely integrated oak, acidity, and tannins and should evolve for 3-5 years and drink well through 2027." – Jay Miller

NorthWest Wine Summit

Score: Gold Medal

13th Annual competition, 2008

The 2008 NorthWest Wine Summit concluded its 13th Annual competition with the selection of the superlative wines in an event that evaluated over 1,000 wines.

Seattle Wine Awards – 2008

Score: 2008 Grand Award of Excellence/Outstanding Washington Wine

Date Reviewed: April 26 & 27, 2008

L'Ecole No 41

The Seattle Wine Awards is the most prestigious and comprehensive independent Washington wine recognition program in the world. Sixteen of Seattle's most prominent wine professionals tasted and evaluated 613 Washington wines in a single-blind format and awarded the top wines with Gold, Silver and Bronze – Grand Awards of Excellence. The 2008 Outstanding Washington Wine Award honor those wines, which by panel consensus were considered outstanding and eligible for the highest recognition of Gold, Silver or Bronze.

Washington State Wine Competition – Central WA State Fair

Score: Gold Medal

Date Reviewed: June 21, 2008

Decanter

Score: 3 Stars

Date Reviewed: November 2007

Tri-Cities Wine Festival

Score: Gold Medal

29th Annual competition, November 2007

Wine Enthusiast

Score: 88 points

Date Reviewed: November 1, 2007

“As usual this is 100% Seven Hills Vineyard Syrah, and it delivers lush, tart red fruit flavors, spicy and accented with citrus rind. There is a sharp, high-toned edge to the finish that gives it definition but needs a bit more time to smooth out. It's substantial and balanced, though a bit monolithic; once in the mouth, its stays put.” – Paul Gregutt

Wine Press Northwest

Score: Recommended

Date Reviewed: Fall 2007

“Phelps clone fruit and a cool harvest allowed Marty Clubb to develop a classic Syrah loaded with dark fruit notes with cloves, mocha, a whiff of bacon fat and rich earth. A smooth entry of black cherries leads into a spicy midpalate with a wealth of structure and tannin.” – Andy Perdue

Northwest Palate

Score: Recommended

Date Reviewed: January/February 2008

L'Ecole N° 41

“The savory nose displays roasted meat, smoke, and ripe plum characters. Lush and ripe on the palate, the flavors are full of plum, violet, and chocolate nuances. The fresh acidity gives zest to the flavors as the wine progresses in the mouth, with new notes of anise and sage showing up. Lively, yet rich in character, this interesting Syrah is still young and restless. Cellar 2-3 years for added maturity.”

San Jose Mercury News

Walla Walla wineries producing top-notch cabernet, merlot, syrah

Date Reviewed: June 25, 2008

“...The wines produced by Walla Walla wineries range from barbera to zinfandel, but the reputations of three grape varieties have been firmly established: cabernet sauvignon, merlot and more recently, syrah. As for Walla Walla syrah, I loved the 2005 L'Ecole N° 41 Seven Hills Vineyard Syrah, which is rich and a little meaty, with spicy blueberry and boysenberry flavors and firm structure...” – Laurie Daniel

Stephen Tanzer's International Wine Cellar

Score: 86 points

Date Reviewed: November/December 2007