

School news

News from **L'Ecole No 41**

New Fall Releases

2008 Estate Luminesce Seven Hills Vineyard Walla Walla Valley

70% Semillon, 30% Sauvignon Blanc
789 cases

Rich and complex, this Estate Semillon/Sauvignon Blanc shows exotic star fruit, papaya, and tropical flavors with lychee and melon on a spicy, crisp mineral finish.



2007 Estate Merlot Seven Hills Vineyard Walla Walla Valley

81% Merlot, 11% Cabernet Sauvignon,
8% Cabernet Franc • 1,326 cases

With mature vines, this consistently rich and flavorful merlot from our Estate Seven Hills Vineyard shows its characteristic cedary, black cherry fruit, with baking spice aromas and a gripping mix of blueberry, blackberry and cocoa on an elegant, earthy finish.

2008 Semillon Columbia Valley

89% Semillon, 11% Sauvignon Blanc
4,154 cases

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

2008 Chardonnay Columbia Valley

100% Chardonnay • 4,925 cases

This elegantly balanced Chardonnay shows robust acidity and purity of fruit with subdued tropical fruit, orange blossom and Asian pear flavors and subtle mineral nuances that gain complexity on a long, robust finish.

THINK WALLA WALLA — DRINK L'ECOLE

Walla Walla, WA – From the beginning of modern day grape growing and wine making in the Walla Walla Valley, L'Ecole No 41 has been instrumental in establishing the Walla Walla Valley as one of the most exciting and written about viticulture regions in America. We have immersed ourselves in the rhythms of many vintages and, along the way, have learned how to translate our vineyards' potential to produce the finest wines.

The name L'Ecole has become synonymous, among consumers and wine trade, with Washington State Semillon and Merlot, establishing these varietals as the cornerstone of our production early on. L'Ecole produced its first Walla Walla Valley designated wines with the 1993 vintage—from an AVA with a 9 year history and less than 60 acres in production. The distinct attributes of these wines signified the immense potential of this young growing region and secured L'Ecole's first commitment to estate vineyards at Seven Hills Vineyard in 1997. A decade and a half later, vine maturity and root depth are delivering a richer and more complex slate of fruit and mineral character. In other words, we are making increasingly terroir-driven and distinctive wines. The evolution of the L'Ecole portfolio is a testament to the increasing maturity and quality of the Walla Walla Valley.

“...what has been proven beyond a doubt is that anyone who values tradition, continuity, and a track record of excellence, will eventually find their way to L'Ecole's wines. A lot of wineries succeed at making a few barrels of something good in their first or second vintage. The real challenge is to make consistently fine wine, over many years and vintages, across a wide number of varietals and blends.”

— Paul Gregutt, author, wine critic, columnist, *Wine Enthusiast Magazine, Seattle Times*

With respect to traditional wine growing regions, we are fortunate to be a part of a young, dynamic industry that welcomes innovation. L'Ecole continues to be at the forefront of sustainable farming in the Valley. Our Walla Walla Valley wines are made from grapes sourced from VINEA¹ certified sustainable vineyards. These wines are also certified Salmon Safe.² This level of commitment

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L'Ecole No 41

41 Lowden School Road • Lowden, WA • (509) 525-0940 • www.lecole.com

THINK WALLA WALLA — DRINK L'ECOLE

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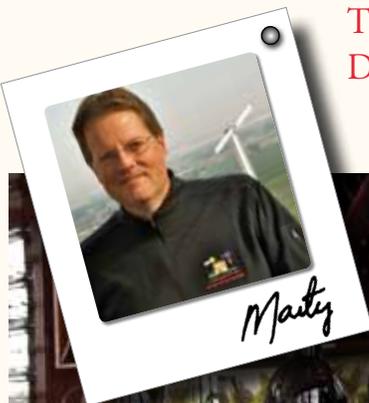
speaks to L'Ecole's long term stewardship of the land we farm, ensuring our vineyards thrive well into the future.

The uncommon quality of wines made from Walla Walla Valley grapes is evident and well represented in L'Ecole N^o 41's diverse portfolio of six Walla Walla Valley wines.

- ▶ Estate Perigee – Seven Hills Vineyard
- ▶ Apogee – Pepper Bridge Vineyard
- ▶ Estate Luminesce – Seven Hills Vineyard
- ▶ Estate Merlot – Seven Hills Vineyard
- ▶ Estate Syrah – Seven Hills Vineyard
- ▶ Cabernet Sauvignon – Walla Walla Valley

Growing grapes and making wine is a lifelong learning process. Fortunately the 'take home exams' require years of sipping and savoring fine wines. Through the end of the year, we will be offering "scholarship pricing" on select Walla Walla Valley wines. Enrich your Walla Walla Valley knowledge:

THINK WALLA WALLA –
DRINK L'ECOLE.



¹VINEA: a Walla Walla Valley viticulture organization whose members have made a voluntary commitment to sustainable farming practices that are ecologically sound, economically viable, and socially supportive. VINEA means "vine" in Latin and has been designed to specifically take into account our climate and terroir in the Walla Walla Valley. VINEA is internationally recognized for its strict environmental standards and high quality farming practices. VINEA members are certified by the IOBC through the Oregon based organization LIVE.

²Salmon Safe: A leading West Coast eco-label, Salmon Safe sets rigorous standards for water quality and habitat protection. VINEA has joined with Salmon-Safe to promote ecologically sustainable viticulture practices that protect the Walla Walla watershed so that salmon can spawn and thrive.

Wine & Spirits

Breaking News!

L'Ecole N^o 41 was just notified by *Wine & Spirits Magazine* that we will be honored as a **Winery of the Year** for the eighth consecutive year. This designates L'Ecole as one of just two Washington wineries to achieve their **Hall of Fame** status.

Notes from L'Ecole:

- ▶ Calendar of Events just updated. Check www.lecole.com for a full listing.
- ▶ Don't forget to email jaime@lecole.com if you prefer to receive an electronic version of our newsletter.

Find us on



Honor Roll Tour & Tasting

Friday afternoons,

May 22 through November

(excluding 11/6)

2pm – 3pm

\$25 per person • \$10 wine club
members

Begin with a tour of L'Ecole N^o 41's production facilities and grounds, followed by a **one-of-a-kind** private tasting in the cellar of the Schoolhouse. Five wines (new releases, limited production, library and/or reserve wines) will be showcased **exclusively** for **Honor Roll** attendees.

RSVP to Brandon Kubrook,

Tasting Room Manager

509.525.0940 or

brandon@lecole.com



2006 Estate Perigee – Seven Hills Vineyard

Rating: 93 points & Editors Choice WE, 93 points W&S, 90 points WS
AVA: Walla Walla Valley
Variety: 56% Cabernet Sauvignon, 34% Merlot, 10% Cabernet Franc
Produced: 1,627 cases
Drink: Now – 2023

Seven Hills Vineyard, planted in the wind blown loess of geologically young, mineral rich soils, is one of the Walla Walla Valley's most acclaimed vineyards. Perigee is a blend of the oldest and most distinguished blocks from our Estate vineyard, renowned for its rich elegance, seductive aromas and complex, silky finish. Polished with aromas of exotic spice, blackberry and black cherry fruit, this wine has an earthy, chalky minerality which exudes power and grace on a generous finish.

Proprietary Name: Perigee is the closest point to the earth in the moon's orbit. "Closeness to the earth" is an attractive attribute for Seven Hills Vineyard, since the wine is known for its earthy structure and suggests the environmentally sound and sustainable viticulture practices we utilize.



2006 Apogee – Pepper Bridge Vineyard

Rating: 92 points W&S, 91 points WS
AVA: Walla Walla Valley
Variety: 46% Cabernet Sauvignon, 42% Merlot, 8% Malbec, 4% Cabernet Franc
Produced: 1,748 cases
Drink: Now – 2023

Pepper Bridge Vineyard is planted in the terraced remnants of ice-age flood deposits and is one of the Walla Walla Valley's most reputable vineyards. Apogee was the first wine produced from this vineyard (1993) which shows it characteristic spicy, bold and dark fruit flavors with rich structure, well-integrated tannins and a long finish. Boldly aromatic, this wine has aromas of earth and leather with hints of cinnamon and nutmeg. Dense, layered and full of flavor on the palate this wine has a smooth, velvety finish.

Proprietary Name: Apogee is the point in the orbit of the moon that is the greatest distance from the earth; the farthest point or apex. The name reflects all that we work to accomplish with this wine; reaching the ultimate in quality.



2008 Estate Luminesce – Seven Hills Vineyard

Rating: 91 points & Editors Choice WE
AVA: Walla Walla Valley
Variety: 70% Semillon, 30% Sauvignon Blanc
Produced: 789 cases
Drink: Now – 2012

Luminesce captures the refreshing and illuminating aspect of this classic Bordeaux blend. This wine is anchored with Semillon at its core, providing lush tones of melon, pear and honeysuckle. The introduction of Sauvignon Blanc broadens the flavor and texture elevating the crisp, floral and mineral side of the wine. As with our red Bordeaux blend Perigee, **Luminesce** exemplifies the signature characteristics of our Estate Seven Hills Vineyard.



2007 Estate Merlot – Seven Hills Vineyard

Rating: 92 points WE
AVA: Walla Walla Valley
Variety: 81% Merlot, 11% Cabernet Sauvignon, 8% Cabernet Franc
Produced: 1,326 cases
Drink: Now – 2016

With mature vines, this consistently rich and flavorful merlot from our Estate Seven Hills Vineyard shows its characteristic cedary, black cherry fruit with baking spice aromas and a gripping mix of blueberry, blackberry and cocoa on an elegant, earthy finish.



2007 Estate Syrah – Seven Hills Vineyard

Rating: 92 points WE
AVA: Walla Walla Valley
Variety: 100% Syrah
Produced: 1,012 cases
Drink: Now – 2016

Derived from some of the earliest Walla Walla Valley plantings of this varietal, our Estate Syrah is loaded with complete aromas of leather, anise and tobacco. The rich mid-palate shows flavors of plum and blackberry that give way to a concentrated and unrelenting, earthy finish.



2006 Cabernet Sauvignon

Rating: 91 points & Cellar Selection WE
AVA: Walla Walla Valley
Variety: 100% Cabernet Sauvignon
Produced: 1,785 cases
Drink: Now – 2016

This complex and elegant Cabernet Sauvignon reflects the diversity of terrior in the Walla Walla Valley from vineyards planted in wind-blown loess (our Estate Seven Hills Vineyard, Minnick Hills & Loess Vineyard – 50%), ice-age flood silts (Va Piano & Pepper Bridge Vineyard – 30%), and basalt river rock (Yellow Jacket Vineyard – 20%). This wine's intricate, old world structure and dense, dark fruit flavors shows hints of cassis and cocoa with earthy leather and tobacco on a beautifully balanced finish.

Seven Hills Vineyard

AVA: Walla Walla Valley

First Planted: 1981

Co-Ownership:

L'Ecole No 41, Pepper Bridge Winery,
Leonetti Cellar

Acres: 200

Total L'Ecole production: 35%

Certified Sustainable (VINEA)

Certified Salmon Safe

Accolade:

"One of the Ten Great Vineyards of the World"
by *Wine & Spirits Magazine* (2004)

L'Ecole No 41

P.O. Box 111
Lowden, WA 99360



If you are thinking of sending a gift of wine to friends, family and business associates, consider a L'Ecole No 41 Gift Card and let them choose!

Celebrating 26 Years!

Member *events*



First Ever

Retrospective Tasting

November 6 • 2:00pm

1997 Apogee

2001 Apogee

2006 Apogee

1999 Apogee

2003 Apogee

2006 Estate Perigee

2003 Estate Perigee

Join Marty for an unbelievable vertical tasting and experience the amazing cellaring potential of our two most esteemed wines. History has never been more delicious!

Details- This is a seated tasting and is by reservation only. Limited to 30 people. Space is first come, first serve. Cost: \$25/person for Wine Club Members & \$40/person for guests. To reserve your spot, call or e-mail jaimel@lecole.com.

Wine Club Member Pick Up Party

November 6-7 • 10am-5pm both days

Vins de L'Ecole members are invited to escape the crowds and join us for a private tasting of new releases including the **2007 Walla Walla Valley Reserve** (199 cases - Wine Club Member Exclusive). A very limited quantity of this wine will be available to purchase for the first time this weekend (6-bottle limit). Hors d'oeuvres and a barrel sample of our **2008 Estate Cabernet Sauvignon - Seven Hills Vineyard** will also be offered. Only 8 barrels of this cabernet are being made which will be released exclusively to club members Fall 2010.

Details- Guests of members are welcome. Members may also pick up their November Wine Club Selection. Please let Jaime know ahead of time if you would like to do so.

Wine Club Programs

Want to make the most of your wine club discounts and spread out the shipping costs? Consider changing your membership level to Gold or Platinum. Call or email Jaime to learn more.

Vin Select:

2 red & 1 white wine selections per shipment
3 shipments/year (Apr, Sept, & Nov)

Argent (Silver) One bottle of each selection per shipment
\$75-110/shipment + tax & shipping

Or (Gold) One case split equally among selections per shipment
\$300-400/shipment + tax & shipping

Platine (Platinum) One case of each selection per shipment
\$775-1125/shipment + tax & shipping

Vin Rouge:

2 red wine selections per shipment
3 shipments/year (Apr, Sept, & Nov)

Argent (Silver) One bottle of each selection per shipment
\$54-90/shipment + tax & shipping

Or (Gold) One case split equally among selections per shipment
\$300-500/shipment + tax & shipping

Platine (Platinum) One case of each selection per shipment
\$600-950/shipment + tax & shipping

Vin Blanc:

2-3 white wine selections per shipment
2 shipments/year (Apr & Sept)

Argent (Silver) One bottle of each selection per shipment
\$30-50/shipment + tax & shipping

Or (Gold) One case split equally among selections per shipment
\$160-170/shipment + tax & shipping

Platine (Platinum) One case of each selection per shipment
\$320-510/shipment + tax & shipping

We are excited to announce our September 2009 Wine Club Selections!

Vin Select

2007 Estate Syrah—
Seven Hills Vineyard
Walla Walla Valley

2007 Estate Merlot—
Seven Hills Vineyard
Walla Walla Valley

2008 Estate Luminesce—
Seven Hills Vineyard
Walla Walla Valley

Vin Rouge

2007 Estate Syrah—
Seven Hills Vineyard
Walla Walla Valley

2007 Estate Merlot—
Seven Hills Vineyard
Walla Walla Valley

Vin Blanc

2008 Estate Luminesce—
Seven Hills Vineyard
Walla Walla Valley

2008 Semillon—
Columbia Valley

2008 Chardonnay—
Columbia Valley