

L'Ecole

No 41

2014 Cabernet Sauvignon Walla Walla Valley

WINEMAKER COMMENT

This wine is a blend of five prestigious vineyard sites representing three unique soil types in the Walla Walla Valley. Its old world structure, dense dark fruit flavors and elegant tannins exemplify the best of Walla Walla.

VINEYARDS

This Cabernet Sauvignon reflects the diversity of terroir in the Walla Walla Valley from vineyards planted in:

Wind-blown loess – Estate Seven Hills, Loess & Summit View

River rock – Yellow Jacket, Stone Valley

Fractured basalt – Estate Ferguson

Ice-age flood silts – Pepper Bridge

VINTAGE

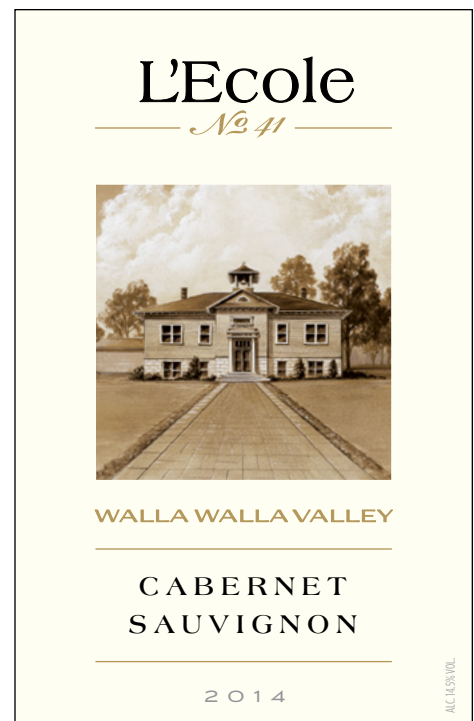
- The 2014 vintage was a repeat of the warm 2013 vintage with heat units nearly identical, and no unusual winter frost, pest, or disease pressure.
- Bud break was early, followed by a warm spring and relatively early bloom. Fruit set was near ideal. Slowing tactics were implemented such as delayed thinning and leafing to delay veraison and ultimately harvest.
- Temperatures cooled mid-August stretching out the hang-time to complete veraison. Berry size and berry count per cluster were slightly up resulting in healthy crop yields.
- Modest fall day-time temperatures and cool nights resulted in a rich and vibrant structure with bold color development. Overall warmer conditions delivered ample sugars and surprisingly strong acids, particularly in our higher elevation sites.

WINEMAKING

- Over 30 years of meticulous vineyard management and winemaking experience are fundamental to the quality of our wines and reputation for excellence. We are engaged in growing and making 100% of our wines.
- Each lot was hand harvested ripe and gently crushed into 1.5 ton stainless steel fermenters.
- Gentle handling of the fruit through hand punch downs and gravity assisted movements were utilized throughout the entire winemaking process.
- The wine was cleanly racked to 100% small French oak barrels, 40% new, with five rackings over 22 months.

TASTING NOTES

With an elegant, old world structure, this sophisticated Cabernet shows savory aromas of bouquet garni, rose petal, and cocoa. A robust core of blackberry and plum with notes of black currant and cigar box are framed with polished tannins on a rich, harmonious finish.



HARVEST DATA

Harvest Dates	SEPTEMBER 20 – OCTOBER 9, 2014
Average tons/acre	3.5
Average Brix	25.9°
Average pH	3.29
Average Acidity	6.3 g/L

WINE DATA

Composition	100% CABERNET SAUVIGNON
pH	3.64
Total Acidity	6.4 g/L
Alcohol	14.5%
Bottling Date	JULY 11-12, 2016
Release Date	JULY 2017
Case Production	2,300