

L'Ecole

N^o 41

AWARDS & ACCLAIMS

2015 Estate Ferguson

Ferguson Vineyard · Walla Walla Valley

95 points – Jeb Dunnuck,
www.JebDunnuck.com,
April 2018

“The 2015 Estate Ferguson Vineyard checks in as a blend of 56% Cabernet Sauvignon, 30% Merlot, 7% Cab Franc, and 7% Malbec that spent 22 months in 50% new oak. It's the smallest production release of the top cuvées and comes from a single vineyard in the Walla Walla Valley. Currants, smoke, graphite, toasty oak and a kiss of tobacco leaf all define this ripe, opulent, gorgeously pure and layered red. With a big mid-palate, sweet tannin, and a great finish, it's a beautiful wine from this estate that can be drunk today or cellaring for 10-15 years.” – Jeb Dunnuck

94 points – James Suckling,
www.JamesSuckling.com
May 2018

“The tar and blackberry aromas are impressive with hints of roasted almonds. Full-bodied, layered and delicious. Licorice and hot-stone undertones. Blend of 56% cabernet sauvignon, 30% merlot, 7% cabernet franc and 7% malbec. Drink or hold.” – James Suckling

93 points, Cellar Selection – Wine Enthusiast,
www.winemag.com, July 2018

“This winery's young estate vineyard is proving itself to be a special spot. This is a blend of 56% Cabernet Sauvignon, 30% Merlot, 7% Cabernet Franc and 7% Malbec. The brooding aromas of dark cherry, cassis, fresh and dried herb, incense, luxurious oak spices (50% new French), mineral, pencil lead, flower and scorched earth lead to a flavorful but exceptionally well-balanced palate that shows sophistication. The tannins are highly structured but also bring a sense of polish. It has the stuffing to go the distance but needs significant time to settle in. Best from 2028– 2034.”
– Sean Sullivan

93 points, Stephen Tanzer, Vinous,
www.Vinous.com,
November 2017

“Bright ruby-red. Alluring scents of cassis, mocha, coffee and tobacco leaf, plus a hint of brown spices. Quite fine-grained and stylish but a bit youthfully imploded, conveying an impression of density without weight.” – Stephen Tanzer

92 points – Wine & Spirits,
www.wineandspirits.com, August 2018

“This represents the fifth vintage of Ferguson, a cabernet-based blend from L'Ecole's dramatic basalt-laden, wind-whipped vineyard above Seven Hills. The 2015 feels somewhat cooler than past vintages, still savory in its cedar and cigar-wrapped scents, and spice notes of cardamom and capsicum; but there's a leafy quality to the plum flavors that lends itself to the texture as well, creating a more elegant feel to the tannins. Ready to drink now, it will age beautifully, and you'd be advised to cellar at least a few bottles to taste in five years, ten years, twenty.”
– Patrick J. Comiskey

88 points – Wine Spectator,
www.WineSpectator.com,
2018 (web only)

“There's plenty of power and intensity in this red, with expressive notes of currant, stony mineral and fresh thyme that finish with a firm grip of tannins. Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot, Cabernet Franc and Malbec. Best from 2020 through 2025.”
– Tim Fish

19.5/20 points - Rand Sealey's Review of
Washington Wines, April 2018,
www.reviewofwashingtonwines.com

“This vintage from the vineyard overlooking the South Valley, is composed of 56% Cabernet Sauvignon, 30% Merlot, and 7% each of Cabernet Franc and Malbec. It displays a deep ruby color and seductive aromas of blackberry, blueberry, cherry, black currant, wild roses, sweet tobacco, cedar, sandalwood, sage, violets and oriental incense. The flavors are mouth encompassing, with penetrating fruits that are endowed with licorice, dark chocolate, French press coffee and loess and fractured basalt minerals. The penetration continues on the back with pressed berries, roasted walnuts, pulverized charcoal, integrated oak (50% small new French) and fine grained tannins on the long, long finish.”
– Rand Sealey

Medals & Competitions

Gold – Seattle Wine Awards, 2018

Gold – Walla Walla Valley Wine Competition,
2018

Silver – TEXSOM International Wine Awards,
2019