

## 2016 Estate Merlot Walla Walla Valley

**95 points**, James Suckling, [www.jamessuckling.com](http://www.jamessuckling.com),  
February 2019

*A stunning merlot that proves what this grape is capable of in Washington State! Ravishing blueberry nose with delicate, minty freshness, then a medium-to full-bodied palate, on which velvety tannins are married to bright acidity and minerality that drives the long, pure finish. Drink or hold. – James Suckling*

**93 points** – Jeb Dunnuck, [www.JebDunnuck.com](http://www.JebDunnuck.com)  
April 2019

*“... the 2016 Merlot Walla Walla Valley is all estate fruit and made from 76% Merlot, 18% Cabernet Franc, and the rest Cabernet Sauvignon, brought up in 40% new oak. Its deep ruby/purple color is followed by notes of cassis, leafy herbs, damp earth, and graphite. Balanced, medium to full-bodied, seamless, and beautifully put together, it's a terrific, high-class Merlot to drink over the coming 7-8 years as well.” – Jeb Dunnuck*

**90 points** – Wine & Spirits, [www.wineandspirits.com](http://www.wineandspirits.com)  
June 2019

*“Leading with textbook Walla Walla tobacco-tin scents, this wine has a bright core of cherry and plum flavor – a hallmark of Seven Hills vineyard, where half of this fruit was sourced; the other half came from Ferguson, which may account for the wine's firm tannins. It has the stuffing to lay down; or decant it now for steak.”  
– Patrick J. Comiskey*

**19/20 points** - Rand Sealey's Review of Washington Wines,  
[www.reviewofwashingtonwines.com](http://www.reviewofwashingtonwines.com)  
May 2019

*“Composed of 76% Merlot, 18% Cabernet Franc and 6% Cabernet Sauvignon and half from the Ferguson Vineyard and half from Seven Hills, this exhibits a deep ruby color and attractive aromas of raspberry, black cherry, plum, crushed roses, tobacco leaf, cedar, anise and clove. The flavors are medium bodied but deep and penetrating, with notes of licorice, cocoa, espresso and silt and basalt minerals. On the back, the wine turns cheny textured yet supple, with sensations of pressed fruits, roasted pecans and graphite, followed by a long satisfying ripe tannin finish.” – Rand Sealey*

**89 points**, Wine Enthusiast, [www.winemag.com](http://www.winemag.com),  
July 2019

*“Faint aromas of dried herb, cigar leaf, mocha and raspberry are followed by light, tart cranberry flavors backed by firm, dry, somewhat gritty tannins framed by a blast of impressive acidity. It's very tannic on its own but should fit in well at the dinner table. Pair it with pork chops with a cherry compote. It has an extremely long life in front of it. Give it a multiday extended decant if drinking before 2025”  
– Sean Sullivan*

---

### Medals & Competitions