

2016 Cabernet Sauvignon Columbia Valley

92 points, Decanter, www.decanter.com,
January 2020 Issue

“Along with Woodward Canyon and Leonetti, L'Ecole No41 (founded 1983) was a Walla Walla pioneer, today run by the third generation from the Frenchtown School shown on the labels. This is L'Ecole's most modest Cabernet, with fruit from long-term contract growers as well as the estate Ferguson Vineyard. A robust structure and oaky frame (22 months in small barrels, 25% new) plus generous cassis, mocha and inky mineral tones.” – Tina Gellie

91 points, James Suckling, www.jamessuckling.com,
February 2019

A very attractive cabernet sauvignon that has freshness and moderately dry tannins that nicely support the medium to full body. The finish has a lot of discreet herbal notes that add interest and make it even more food-friendly. Drink now – James Suckling

90 points, Wine Spectator, www.winespectator.com,
July 2019

“Precise and well-built, with elegantly expressive black cherry, dusty dried herb and spice flavors that linger toward polished tannins. Drink now through 2026.” – Tim Fish

90 points – Vinous, www.vinous.com,
December 2019

“Bright ruby-red. Cassis, plum, blueberry, graphite and smoky oak on the nose, plus hints of dusty sage and tobacco leaf. More easygoing in style than the Cabernet Franc Seven Hills (in spite of possessing sound acidity), with its supple flavors of dark fruits, spices and herbs in harmony from the outset. Finishes with refined tannins and rising berry persistence. This very well-balanced Cabernet is drinkable right now as its fruit is in the foreground today. (6,500 cases made from multiple vineyards sites, including a sizable percentage of older vines; 25% new oak)” – Stephen Tanzer

89 points, Jeb Dunnuck, www.JebDunnuck.com,
April 2019

“The 2016 Cabernet Sauvignon Columbia Valley is all Cabernet Sauvignon and comes from a mix of sites in the Columbia Valley and was brought up in 25% new French oak. It has plenty of darker fruits and earthy, herbal notes, medium body, terrific fruit, and a balanced, layered, charming style that's going to keep for 8 – 10 years. As normal, it's a smoking value.” – Jeb Dunnuck

89 points, Wine Advocate, www.robertparker.com
May 2020

“The 2016 Columbia Valley Cabernet Sauvignon opens with aromas of a dark fruit bowl with notions of dusty bitter dark chocolate and soft nuances of oak spices. Medium to full-bodied, the palate is slightly shy and will need some time in the glass to coax the expression to attention. The wine ends with a straightforward finish with flavors of blackberry and cocoa powder. 6,600 cases produced.” - Anthony Mueller

18.5/20 points, Rand Sealey's Review of Washington Wines, www.ReviewofWashingtonWines.com,
November 2019

“This is a well put together 100% Cabernet. It offers a deep ruby color and attractive aromas of blackberry, cherry, plum, black roses, mulberry, cedar.” – Rand Sealey

Medals & Competitions

Silver – The Jefferson Cup Invitational Wine Competition 2019

Bronze - Rodeo Uncorked, 2020