

L'Ecole

— *No 41* —

2016 Estate Perigee – Seven Hills Vineyard Walla Walla Valley

WINEMAKER COMMENT

Our Estate Perigee captures the essence of Seven Hills Vineyard's characteristic rich elegance, seductive aromas and earthy structure. L'Ecole has been producing wines from Seven Hills Vineyard since 1993. We hand-select our oldest and most distinguished blocks to produce this stunning, flagship wine.

SEVEN HILLS VINEYARD

L'Ecole No 41 is a partner in the 190 acre acclaimed Seven Hills Vineyard, which is planted in wind-blown loess of geologically young and mineral rich soils. Originally planted in 1981, this Certified Sustainable and Salmon Safe vineyard was recognized as one of the Ten Great Vineyards of the World by *Wine & Spirits Magazine*.

VINTAGE

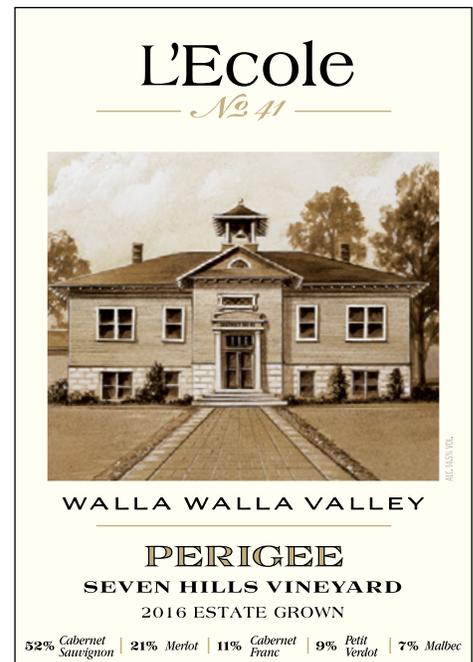
- The 2016 vintage looks like another spectacular and large harvest for Washington State; it started early with a mild winter, hot spring, and early bud break, suggesting another warm year was on the way.
- Moderate June weather was ideal for bloom and fruit set.
- July temperatures were lower than normal, allowing for healthy berry and cluster growth.
- Continued mild weather through August and September stretched the growing season allowing the fruit to ripen gradually and evenly, with lower sugars and higher acidity.
- The longer hang-time produced fantastic balance of flavor and structure in both the white and red varieties.

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 and 5 ton open-topped 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

Perigee exemplifies this vineyard's characteristic cedar and dark fruit structured elegance. Deep ruby in color with aromas of blackberry, cigar box and herbal flavors are accented with notes of cocoa and earth, on a complex silky finish.



HARVEST DATA

Harvest Dates	SEPTEMBER 12 – 30, 2016
Average tons/acre	3.0
Average Brix	26.0°
Average pH	3.36
Average Acidity	6.4 g/L

WINE DATA

Composition	52% CABERNET SAUVIGNON, 21% MERLOT, 11% CABERNET FRANC, 9% PETIT VERDOT, 7% MALBEC
pH	3.75
Total Acidity	6.7 g/L
Alcohol	14.5%
Bottling Date	JULY 10, 2018
Release Date	APRIL 2018
Case Production	1,350