

L'Ecole

No 41

TOP AWARDS AND REVIEWS

2017 Syrah Columbia Valley

19.5/20 (92.5) PTS

Rand Sealey's Review of Washington Wines - December 2019

L'Ecole's Columbia Valley's Syrahs have been consistent values. This vintage shows a brilliant ruby color and ripe aromas of blackberry, blueberry, currant, black roses, mulberry, sweet tobacco, lavender, rosemary and incense. The flavors are ample yet focused, with notes of licorice, cocoa, roasted coffee beans and earth. The back picks up roasted berries and nuts, mocha and charcoal, followed by a pleasingly ripe moderate tannin finish that is lifted by bright fruit acids.

91 PTS

Washington Wine Blog, Owen Bargreen - October 2019

A smoky whiff takes over the wine as ripe dark fruits and chocolate fill the nose. The palate has great freshness and verve with rich roasted figs, smoked pork shoulder and mocha flavor with shades of tar. Drink 2019-2026.

90 PTS

JebDunnuck.com, Jeb Dunnuck - April 2020

This estate continues to make classic, impeccably balanced wines, which almost always represent a great value. The 2017 Syrah is a great example, offering classic blackberry fruits as well as ample peppery herbs and floral nuances, medium to full body, a ripe yet also fresh style, and a great finish. It's ideal for enjoying over the coming 4-6 years.

90 PTS

Vinous, Stephen Tanzer - December 2020

Bright red-ruby. Peppery black fruits, licorice and crushed rock on the nose. Dense, lively and peppery on entry, then fine-grained in the middle palate, with its black fruit flavors lifted by spices, licorice and minerals. Finishes with firm but well-buffered building tannins and very good length. Fruity and pure but not at all sweet, this is a fresh, peppery style of Syrah with good structure and grip. In fact, it struck me as more backward and ultimately less sweet than the 2018 but quite smooth. (like the 2018 Columbia Valley Syrah, this wine is carrying 15% alcohol).

89 PTS

Wine Enthusiast, Sean Sullivan - January 2020

Though labeled as Syrah, this wine is more GSM blend, with 21% Grenache and 2% Mourvèdre. Reserved aromas of herbs, raspberry jam, barrel spice and blue fruit lead to ripe, extracted red and blue fruit flavors. The tannins initially bring some grip and astringency, needing time to settle in, but once it does it delivers a big, fruit-filled punch. Decant, or drink after 2022.

COMPETITIONS

TEXSOM International Wine Competition, 2020	Gold
San Francisco Chronicle Wine Competition, 2020	Silver