

## 2016 Cabernet Franc

Estate Seven Hills Vineyard · Walla Walla  
Valley

**93 points**, James Suckling, [www.JamesSuckling.com](http://www.JamesSuckling.com)  
July 2019

*“Very fragrant and expressive ripe dark berries abound in this rich cab franc with plenty of spicy oak influence that adds immediate complexity. There’s more to come and the tannins are boldly assertive for now. Try from 2023.” – James Suckling*

**93 points**, Washington Wine Blog,  
[www.washingtonwineblog.com](http://www.washingtonwineblog.com)  
April 2019

*“The nose is intense with mocha, anise and pipe tobacco with a touch of dark chocolate. The palate shows deep dark fruit flavors with sagebrush and mocha. Delicious and decadent now, this has a long life ahead of it. Drink 2019-2035.” – O. Bargreen*

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

*“This 100% varietal wine offers a deep ruby color and seductive aromas of wild blackberries, cherries, cassis, crushed black roses, tobacco, cedar, rosemary, sage, violets and smoldering incense. The medium full bodied flavors mirror the aromatics with deliciously supple red and black fruits that are accented by red licorice, cocoa, medium roast coffee and silt and loam minerals. The back picks up pressed berries, cassis and kirsch liqueurs, orange peel and touches of grilled meats and charcoal, followed by a lingering baking spice and herb dusted ripe tannin finish.” – Rand Sealey*

**92 points** – Vinous, [www.vinous.com](http://www.vinous.com),  
December 2019

*“Bright red-ruby. Brooding aromas of blueberry, blackberry, violet and licorice, showing little obvious pyrazine character (this is a relatively warm site). Concentrated, lush and sweet, with its dark berry fruit flavors complicated by spicy, floral nuances and a sexy note of chocolatey oak. Aeration brought up brisk acidity and a mineral tang. A very complete Cabernet Franc with a deep, cheny finish and the tannic spine to support aging; but give it a couple more years in the cellar. Vine age has turned this Cabernet Franc into a consistent performer, noted Clubb, who added that 2016 was a prolific vintage here, like 2018, with huge clusters. But he cropped the vines below 3.5 tons per acre, thinning the fruit on multiple occasions, explaining that the Cabernet Franc is easier to thin than Merlot due to its higher percentage of light-colored shot berries. (30% new oak; all from Seven Hills)” – Stephen Tanzer*

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### Medals & Competitions