

L'Ecole

No 41

TOP AWARDS AND REVIEWS

2017 Cabernet Sauvignon Estate Walla Walla Valley

19+/20 (95+) PTS

Rand Sealey's Review of Washington Wines - April 2020

This 100% Cabernet Sauvignon is 50% Seven Hills and 50% Ferguson vineyards. It exhibits an opaque purple-ruby color and intense aromas of wild blackberries, cherries, plums and cassis with scents of crushed roses, mulberry, sweet tobacco, cedar, sandalwood, anise and sweet incense. The flavors, as well, are bold and mouth encompassing, embodying much complexity, marked by licorice, dark cocoa, Sumatra roast and basalt (Ferguson) and silt (Seven Hills) minerals. The intensity extends on the back with sensations of macerated berries, roasted walnuts, mocha and pulverized charcoal, followed by a long herb and spice dusted satiny tannin finish.

93+ PTS

JebDunnuck.com, Jeb Dunnuck - April 2020

While it's hard to tell the difference between the 2017 Cabernet Sauvignon Estate Ferguson And Seven Hills Vineyards and the base 2017 Cabernet Sauvignon Walla Walla Valley based on the labels, the Estate Ferguson And Seven Hills Vineyard bottling shows "Estate Grown" on the front label as well as listing the vineyards on the back label. It has lots of ripe plum, licorice, violets, and gravelly minerality as well as a full-bodied, concentrated, opulent style on the palate. Offering another level of depth and texture over the classic Walla Wall release, it's going to benefit from 3-4 years of bottle age and keep for a decade. It has its foot firmly on the ripeness pedal, yet it's impeccably balanced.

93 PTS

Washington Wine Blog, Owen Bargreen - April 2020

Sourced equally from the 'Ferguson Vineyard' and the 'Seven Hills Vineyard' the 2016 'Walla Walla Valley' Cabernet Sauvignon opens with layers of blackberry and tar that mingle with the lighter sagebrush and wet stone tones on the nose. The stony character to the wine really enhances the deep layers of dark fruits and chocolate tones on the palate. Gorgeous to enjoy right now, the 'Walla Walla Valley' Cabernet Sauvignon will cellar well for decades to come. Be sure to give this at least an hour decant if enjoying in its youth. Drink 2020-2035.

92 PTS

Vinous, Stephen Tanzer - December 2020

Full red-ruby color. Currant, tobacco leaf, crushed herbs and licorice on the perfumed, lifted nose. Dense, dry, savory and intense, offering complex berry, spice, herb and pepper flavors firmed by underlying rocky minerality. Finishes with serious tongue-saturating tannins and slowly rising length; this really saturates the palate on the back end. Sweeter and fuller than the regular Cabernet, with much more material to buffer its tannins. Serious juice for cellaring. (made from a lower crop level than the basic Walla Walla Valley Cabernet; all from Ferguson and Seven Hills; 50% new oak)

90 pts, YEAR'S BEST US CABERNET & BLENDS

Wine & Spirits, Patrick J. Comiskey - October 2020

Drawn from two estate vineyards, Ferguson, on the Sevein hillside, and Seven Hills, downhill, this wine is powerfully savory, with scents of cedar and tobacco, and flavors of spiced cherry and cocoa, all of which should grow more complex with some bottle age.