

# L'Ecole

No 41

## TOP AWARDS AND REVIEWS

### 2016 Perigee, Estate Seven Hills Vineyard Walla Walla Valley

#### 94 PTS

*JebDunnuck.com, Jeb Dunnuck* - April 2019

The 2016 Estate Perigee Seven Hills Vineyard, from another top site in Walla Walla, checks in as 52% Cabernet Sauvignon, 21% Merlot, 11% Cabernet Franc, and the rest Petit Verdot and Malbec, all of which spent 22 months in 40% new French oak. It too offers a saturated purple color as well as a more rounded, plum, full-bodied style in its blackcurrants, tobacco leaf, damp earth, and chocolate aromas and flavors. Ripe, rounded, and plush, yet with considerable mid-palate depth and building tannins, it's approachable today but will benefit from short-term cellaring and keep for over a decade.

#### 94 PTS

*Vinous, Stephen Tanzer* - December 2019

Bright, saturated ruby-red. Brooding aromas of blackberry, blueberry, black pepper, violet and bitter chocolate; youthfully medicinal but not green. Plush, seamless and mouth-saturating but with a tighter grain than the Apogee bottling. Boasts lovely sweetness and intensity to its purple and black berry flavors lifted by violet and cedar nuances. The firm tannins dust the front teeth, incisors and cheeks on the very long, mounting finish. L'Ecole has been doing extended maceration for the Cabernet Sauvignon in this blend, in order to build a more structurally sound wine for aging. And Clubb has been adding more Petit Verdot and Cabernet Franc due to the warmth of this site, noting that these varieties can struggle to ripen in other spots. (40% new oak).

#### 93 PTS

*Washington Wine Blog, Owen Bargreen* - April 2019

The 2016 L'Ecole 'Perigee' Red Wine is another stunning bottling by the talented Marty Clubb. On the nose this is displaying brilliant dark fruit with graphite and mocha that all marvelously combine in the glass. The palate has wonderful freshness and intensity with moderate tannins that line this beautiful wine. Dark fruits mingle with minerals and creme de cassis flavors. Highly Bordelaise and downright delicious in its infancy, this gorgeous bottling has a long life in the cellar. Drink 2019-2035.

#### 93 PTS

*JamesSuckling.com, James Suckling* - July 2019

A symphony of complexity on the nose with an array of ripe dark fruit on offer, as well as a very plush and assertive palate that offers much in the way of deep flavors and long, rich tannins. Drink or hold.

#### 92 PTS

*Wine Spectator, Tim Fish* - October 2019

Structured and well-focused, with layered currant, stony mineral and black olive accents that pair with blackberry, licorice and stony mineral notes, building tension toward refined tannins. Drink now through 2025.

#### 91 PTS, CELLAR SELECTION

*Wine Enthusiast, Sean Sullivan* - October 2019

This wine is 52% Cabernet Sauvignon, 21% Merlot, 11% Cabernet Franc, 9% Petit Verdot and 7% Malbec. Aromas of leafy green herb, cherry cordial, wood and vanilla intertwine with lavender and orange peel accents. The fruit flavors are elegant and highly structured, brightened by tart acidity. Best after 2024.

#### 91 PTS

*Wine & Spirits, Patrick Comiskey* - October 2019

From a powerful and warm vintage, this wine is formidable from start to close. It leads with scents of sawdust, smoke and spearmint, a modicum of red-plum cherry fruit trickling through high, hard walls of oak. This wine needs time to strike a balance between oak and fruit: Cellar before serving it with a steak.

#### 90 PTS

*Wine Advocate, Anthony Mueller* - May 2020

An impressive red blend, the 2016 Perigee Seven Hills Vineyard Estate is composed of 52% Cabernet Sauvignon, 21% Merlot, 11% Cabernet Franc, 9% Petit Verdot and 7% Malbec. The wine is complex on the nose, opening with the aromas of black and red fruits and a soft tart line of acidity through the core. It is full-bodied and expressive on the palate, with a clean, correct and balanced center of fruit and lifting tannins that elevate the expression. The wine ends with flavors of blackberry and dark plum on the long, lingering finish. Give this one more year in bottle, and then enjoy it over the next decade.

### COMPETITIONS

Sunset International Wine Competition, 2019 **Best of Class**

Cascadia International Wine Competition, 2019 **Double Gold**

San Francisco Chronicle Wine Competition, 2020 **Gold**

Sommeliers Choice Awards, 2019 **Gold**