

L'Ecole

No. 41

TOP AWARDS AND REVIEWS

2017 Merlot Columbia Valley

18.5/20 (92.5) PTS

Rand Sealey's Review of Washington Wines - April 2020

This delivers a lot for its modest price. Composed of 81% Merlot, 14% Cabernet Franc, 3% Malbec and 2% Petit Verdot, it shows a deep ruby color and attractive aromas of raspberry, black cherries, plums, black currants, crushed roses, tobacco leaf, cedar, rosemary, clove and incense. The flavors are vigorous and true to variety, with notes of licorice root, cocoa, French roast and minerals. On the back, the wine firms up a bit with sensations of macerated berries, roasted nuts, dried cherries, mocha and pencil shavings, followed by a savory, satisfying ripe tannin finish.

92 PTS, EDITORS' CHOICE

Wine Enthusiast, Sean Sullivan - April 2020

The baking spice, dark raspberry and anise aromas provide appeal. Broad-feeling, textured flavors follow, with cranberry-tart acidity and brawny, firm tannins backing it up. It's an extremely impressive offering of this variety, showing its more serious side—Washington Merlot at its best. It will shine at the dinner table and will have a long life in front of it, seemingly near immortal.

92 PTS

Washington Wine Blog, Owen Bargreen - April 2020

The 2017 L'Ecole No. 41 'Columbia Valley' Merlot is an awesome value from this famed Walla Walla estate. Toasty oak connects with cassis and dark chocolate covered cherry aromatics, with faint sagebrush tones that mingle in the glass. The palate is soft and elegant, giving a good combination of power and verve. Rich black fruits dance with minerals and damp earthy tones on the palate. This is seriously good stuff for the price. Drink 2020-2027.

COMPETITIONS

Savor NW Wine Awards, 2020

Silver