

L'Ecole

No. 41

TOP AWARDS AND REVIEWS

2017 Merlot Estate Walla Walla Valley

94 PTS

JamesSuckling.com, James Suckling - June 2020

This is really delicious and hard not to drink now. It shows chocolate, hazelnut and blackberry character. It's medium-to full-bodied. I like the round, silky tannins and the fresh, focused finish. Rust undertone at the finish. Drink now or hold.

92 PTS

Washington Wine Blog, Owen Bargreen - April 2020

Sourced from both the Seven Hills and Ferguson Vineyards, the 2017 L'Ecole No. 41 'Walla Walla Valley' Merlot opens with bright red fruits that connect with sagebrush and a light dusting of cocoa powder on this expressive nose. The palate is highly Bordelaise with wonderful structure and a strong vein of tension that runs through the core of dark fruits, wet stone, sagebrush and Black Forest cake flavors. Give this elegant wine a two hour decant if enjoying in its youth. Drink 2022-2035.

91 PTS, EDITORS' CHOICE

Wine Enthusiast, Sean Sullivan - August 2020

Ferguson fruit makes up half of this wine, with the other coming from Seven Hills. The aromas offer notes of black tea, dark raspberry, wet basalt, cedar and barrel spice. The palate brings plentiful fruit flavors, generous barrel accents and ample tannin and lively acidity structure. There's a whole lot to like. It will have a long life ahead of it.

90 PTS

JebDunnuck.com, Jeb Dunnuck - April 2020

Slightly more expensive, the 2017 Merlot Walla Walla Valley (79% Merlot, 17% Cabernet Franc, and 4% Cabernet Sauvignon) comes from the estate and reveals a similar purple hue as well as plump, round, opulent notes of black cherries, blackberries, dried tobacco, chocolate, and loamy soil. Ripe, rounded, beautifully textured, and balanced, it has the class to keep for a decade or more if you're so inclined.

90 PTS

Wine & Spirits, Patrick Comiskey - June 2020

This stylish merlot starts off herbal and dark fruited, with scents of pine and plum. With air, the Walla Walla savor comes through, grippy and succulent, a touch leathery, with firm tannins for steak.