

# L'Ecole

N<sup>o</sup> 41

## 2017 Perigee, Estate Seven Hills Vineyard Walla Walla Valley

### WINEMAKER COMMENT

Our Estate Perigee captures the essence of Seven Hills Vineyard's characteristic rich elegance, seductive aromas, and earthy structure. L'Ecole has been producing wines from Seven Hills Vineyard since 1993. We hand-select our oldest and most distinguished blocks to produce this stunning, flagship wine.

### SEVEN HILLS VINEYARD

L'Ecole N<sup>o</sup> 41 is a partner in the 170 acre acclaimed Seven Hills Vineyard, which is planted in wind-blown loess of geologically young and mineral rich soils. Originally planted in 1981, this Certified Sustainable and Salmon Safe vineyard was recognized as one of the Ten Great Vineyards of the World by *Wine & Spirits Magazine*.

### VINTAGE

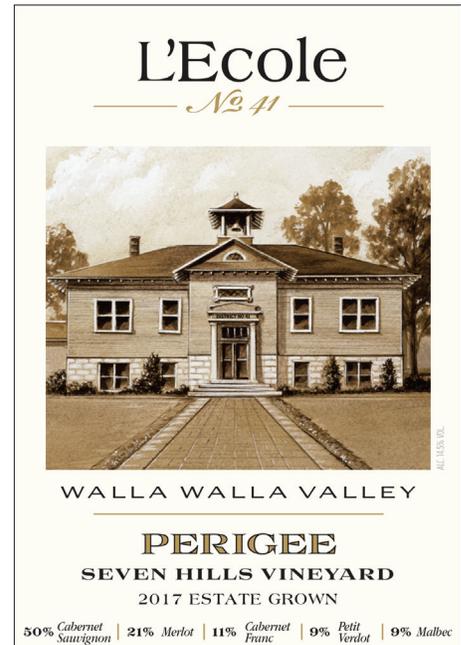
- The 2017 vintage was moderate in heat units and produced spectacular quality and balance normally associated with such seasonal conditions.
- A cool, wet spring delayed bud break until early April allowing the vines to fully recover from a hard prior winter. Bloom occurred in early June in line with the long-term average.
- July and early August were slightly warmer than normal suppressing berry growth and yields.
- Late September was cooler than normal. This slowed fruit maturation, pushing most of harvest into October.
- Our beautiful Indian summer brought plentiful sunshine in October. Warm days and cool night temperatures produced an ideal balance of flavor development, acid retention, and mineral notes in the majority of wines. A near-perfect vintage in the door.

### WINEMAKING

- Over 35 years of meticulous vineyard management and winemaking experience are fundamental to the quality of our wines and reputation for excellence. We are engaged in growing and making 100% of our wines.
- Each lot was hand-harvested ripe and gently crushed into 1.5 and 5 ton open-topped stainless steel fermenters.
- Gentle handling of the fruit through hand punch downs and gravity-assisted movements were utilized throughout the entire winemaking process.
- The wine was cleanly racked to 100% small French oak barrels, 40% new, with four rackings over 22 months.

### TASTING NOTES

*The 2017 Perigee exemplifies this vineyard's characteristic cedar and charm, framed within a classy, structured elegance. Deep ruby in color with complex aromas of black raspberry, ripe blackberry, cedar, and enticing herbal flavors, Perigee shows expressive cocoa, dark fruit, and earth on the palate, underpinned by appealing minerality. This full-flavored, balanced wine is completed by a generous finish.*



### HARVEST DATA

Harvest Dates	SEPTEMBER 13 - OCTOBER 13, 2017
Average tons/acre	3.0
Average Brix	25.9°
Average pH	3.28
Average Acidity	5.9 g/L

### WINE DATA

Composition	50% CABERNET SAUVIGNON, 21% MERLOT, 11% CABERNET FRANC, 9% PETIT VERDOT, 9% MALBEC
pH	3.75
Total Acidity	6.2 g/L
Alcohol	14.5%
Bottling Date	JULY 16, 2019
Release Date	OCTOBER 2020
Case Production	1,280