

# L'Ecole

No. 41

## TOP AWARDS AND REVIEWS

### 2017 Cabernet Sauvignon Columbia Valley

#### 18.5/20 (92.5) PTS

**Rand Sealey's Review of Washington Wine** - April 2020

Sourced from proven vineyards, this 100% Cabernet features a deep ruby color and typical varietal aromas of blackberry, cherry, plum, crushed roses, pipe tobacco, anise and wood smoke. The flavors are robust and fleshy, yet focused, with notes of licorice, cocoa, roasted coffee beans and earth. On the back, the wine firms up a bit with sensations of macerated fruits, roasted nuts, mocha, graphite and burnt toast, followed by a lightly oaked (25% new) smooth tannin finish.

#### 91 PTS, EDITORS' CHOICE

**Wine Enthusiast, Sean Sullivan** - August 2020

The aromas offer notes of black cherry, plum, spice, coffee and herbs. Wellbalanced coffee, chocolate and cherry flavors follow. The structure and balance are impressive, with the acidity upping the interest. It delivers a whole lot of quality and value.

#### 91 PTS

**JebDunnuck.com, Jeb Dunnuck** - April 2020

Plenty of cassis, damp earth, lead pencil, and leafy, tobacco-laced herbal notes emerge from the 2017 Cabernet Sauvignon Columbia Valley, which is medium to full-bodied and has beautiful purity, fine tannins, and a great finish. It's another Bordeaux style Cabernet Sauvignon from this estate that can be drunk today or cellared for over a decade. The Columbia Valley release is 100% Cabernet Sauvignon that was brought up all in French oak, 25% being new. There are a whopping 5,600 cases produced, and it's a smoking wine!

#### 91 PTS

**OwenBargreen.com, Owen Bargreen** - April 2020

Almost as good as the 'Columbia Valley' Merlot, the 2017 L'Ecole No. 41 'Columbia Valley' Cabernet Sauvignon shows off a silky texture and plush mouthfeel. Soft tannins line the core of cassis, mocha and tar flavors, with blue fruit undertones. Fantastic to enjoy in its youth, this outstanding Cabernet Sauvignon will cellar well over the next seven to ten years. Drink 2020-2027.

#### 89 PTS

**Wine Advocate, Anthony Mueller** - October 2020

With a dense, dark-fruited core, the 2017 Columbia Valley Cabernet Sauvignon has aromas of blackberry and cassis with an herbaceous undertone and soft dusty character. Medium to full-bodied, the wine has a tight mouthfeel with grainy tannins that follow a condensed dark-fruit profile. Lingering with a tight tannic edge, subtle baking spices and bitter dark chocolate flavors remain on the finish. Drink date: 2020-2026.

#### 89 PTS

**Vinous, Stephen Tanzer** - December 2020

Bright, dark red-ruby. Cassis, peppery herbs, tobacco leaf and graphite on the Old World nose. Firm, bright and nicely concentrated, with good sugar/acid snap and intensity to its black fruit, licorice, menthol, bitter chocolate and spice flavors. Dry but not quite austere, as there's good fruit sweetness lurking. A serious spine of building tannins gives this wine the structure to evolve and harmonize with bottle aging. In fact, this distinctly firm wine is a bit less easy to drink than the '16 was last year.

#### 88 PTS

**Wine Spectator, Tim Fish** - August 2020

Solidly built and precise, featuring dark plum and fresh thyme accents, finishing with a nip of tannins. Drink now through 2027.