

# L'Ecole

No 41

## 2018 Cabernet Sauvignon Walla Walla Valley

### WINEMAKER COMMENT

This wine is a blend sourced from prestigious vineyard sites representing four unique soil types in the Walla Walla Valley, 50% of which are L'Ecole's Estate Vineyards. Its old-world structure, dense dark fruit flavors and elegant tannins exemplify the best of Walla Walla.

### VINEYARDS

This Cabernet Sauvignon reflects the diversity of terroir in the Walla Walla Valley from vineyards planted in:

**Fractured basalt** – Estate Ferguson

**Thin loess over ice-age flood silts** – Summit View

**Deep, wind-blown loess** – Estate Seven Hills & Loess

**The Rocks** – Yellow Jacket & Waliser

### VINTAGE

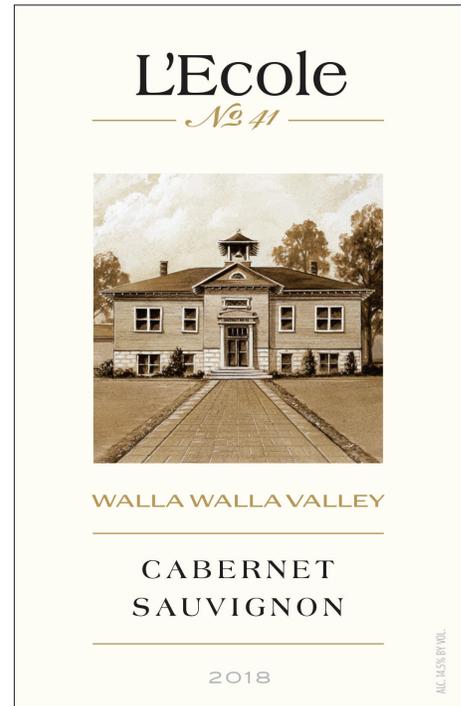
- Perfect dry harvest weather extended hang-time resulting in rich color and vibrant fruit flavors, another great vintage for Washington State.
- A late bud-break in mid-April was followed by a warm May with rapid canopy growth. A quick, even bloom set a uniform and healthy crop. A cool June contributed to healthy berry growth.
- July and early August were warm, with occasional heat spikes. Canopies were managed to avoid sunburn and irrigation was micromanaged. Intense cluster thinning was required to control yields.
- Veraison tracked 2017 in Walla Walla and was slightly ahead in other regions of the state. A brief rainfall shifted early September into cooler weather leading to two months of near perfect weather conditions for final fruit maturity.
- Higher sugars were balanced against higher acid levels and wonderfully intense color and tannin extraction, big fruit flavors, and overall balanced structure. Another strong Washington vintage.

### 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 ton 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 entirely to small French oak barrels, 35% new, with four rackings over 18 months.

### TASTING NOTES

*Beautifully structured, this stylish Cabernet immediately impresses with its aromatic purity, displaying savory cigar box and graphite, with pretty rose and black currant. In the mouth, espresso flavors underpin black plum, lavender, and blueberry notes. Robust yet polished, it concludes with a persistent finish.*



### HARVEST DATA

Harvest Dates	SEPTEMBER 22 - OCTOBER 12, 2018
Average tons/acre	3.3
Average Brix	25.9°
Average pH	3.25
Average Acidity	6.7 g/L

### WINE DATA

Composition	100% CABERNET SAUVIGNON
pH	3.62
Total Acidity	6.8 g/L
Alcohol	14.5%
Bottling Date	JULY 6, 2020
Release Date	APRIL 2021
Case Production	1,900