

# L'Ecole

No. 41

## 2018 Cabernet Sauvignon Columbia Valley

### WINEMAKER COMMENT

For over 35 years, L'Ecole has built long term partnerships with the oldest and most proven vineyards, providing access to some of the best fruit in the Columbia Valley. With average vine age of more than 20 years, this wine shows a classic Cabernet Sauvignon profile of firm structure, integrated tannins and dark expressive fruit.

### KEY VINEYARDS

Candy Mountain, Estate Ferguson, Estate Seven Hills, Bacchus, Alder Ridge, Klipsun, Summit View, Yellow Jacket, Pepper Bridge, Stone Tree

### VINTAGE

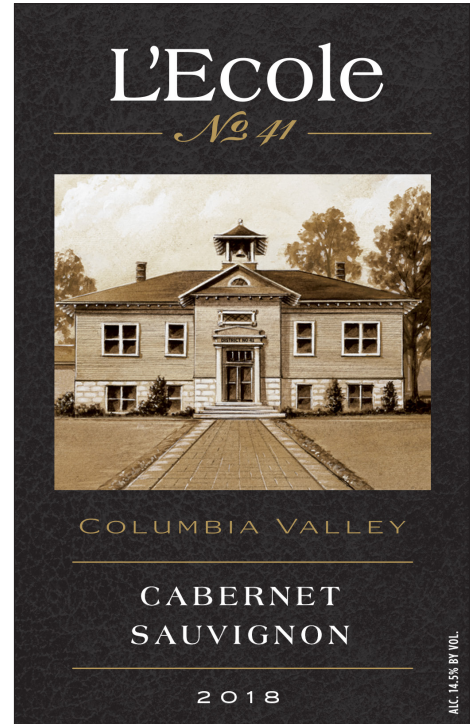
- Perfectly dry harvest weather extended hang-time resulting in rich color and vibrant fruit flavors, another great vintage for Washington State.
- A late bud-break in mid-April was followed by a warm May with rapid canopy growth. A quick, even bloom set a uniform crop. A cool June contributed to healthy 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 and 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 to small oak barrels, 25% new, with four rackings over 22 months.

### TASTING NOTES

*With its classic Cabernet profile, this expressive wine shows layers of dark fruit and espresso, accented by an array of floral notes, including violet, lavender, and crushed roses. With blackberry, cherry, roasted coffee beans, and cassis on the palate, it's framed with fine tannins which carry through to a flavorful finish.*



### HARVEST DATA

Harvest Dates	SEPTEMBER 22 - OCTOBER 12, 2017
Average Brix	25.8°
Average pH	3.32
Average Acidity	6.0g/L

### WINE DATA

Composition	100% CABERNET SAUVIGNON
pH	3.73
Total Acidity	6.0 g/L
Alcohol	14.5%
Bottling Date	JULY 7 - 9, 2020
Release Date	JUNE 2021
Case Production	6,400