

L'Ecole

N° 41

2019 GSM, Estate Seven Hills Vineyard Walla Walla Valley

WINEMAKER COMMENT

Sourced from our Estate Seven Hills Vineyard, each varietal in this elegant winery-exclusive blend brings unique nuances: beautiful red fruit and floral notes from the Grenache, inviting dark fruit, and savory flavors from the Syrah, while the generous portion of beguiling Mourvèdre adds spice and peppery notes. Amazingly versatile, this aromatically complex wine is a wonderful fit for a range of cuisines.

SEVEN HILLS VINEYARD

L'Ecole N° 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. One of the most renowned vineyards of Walla Walla, Seven Hills is Certified Sustainable and Salmon Safe and was recognized as one of the Ten Great Vineyards of the *World by Wine & Spirits Magazine*.

VINTAGE

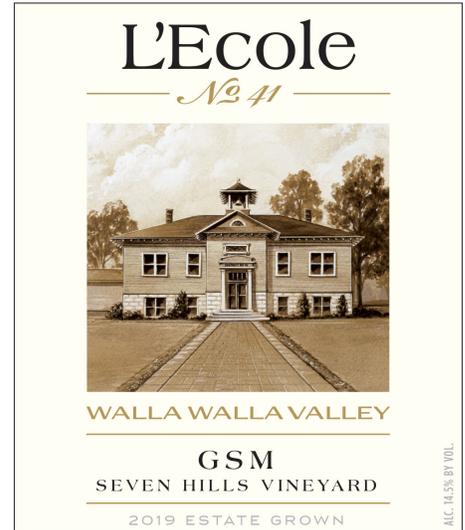
- An overall mild growing season and challenging harvest have nonetheless delivered a high-quality vintage for L'Ecole.
- A cold and snowy February/March delayed field pruning, resulting in budbreak late April to early May. A warm May accelerated canopy growth and the onset of bloom.
- Cooler July temperatures moderated heat unit accumulation with veraison delayed 7 to 10 days from normal. August brought customary warm weather, with only a few heat spikes over 100°F.
- A warm early September initiated a normal harvest, which was slowed due to slightly rainy and cooler conditions. A light frost at the end of September along with a forecast of more freezing weather on its way accelerated picking, with 60% of our fruit harvested the first two weeks of October.
- Freezing weather quickly brought the season to a close the second week of October.
- With delight, we are seeing beautiful and elegant wines, with high natural acidity, and impressive structure.

WINEMAKING

- Over 35 years of meticulous vineyard management and winemaking experience are fundamental to the quality of our wines and reputation for excellence.
- 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, 30% new, with four rackings over 18 months.

TASTING NOTES

Remarkably aromatic, this Rhône blend bursts with lavender and cardamom, mingling with hints of orange peel and blackberry. In the mouth, flavors of dark fruit and savory pepper notes are framed in an elegant structure. The wine finishes with fine tannins and freshness.



HARVEST DATA

Harvest Dates	SEPTEMBER 20 - OCTOBER 10, 2019
Average Brix	24.5°
Average pH	3.51
Average Acidity	5.7 g/L

WINE DATA

Composition	34% GRENACHE, 33% SYRAH, 33% MOURVÈDRE
pH	3.75
Total Acidity	5.6 g/L
Alcohol	14.5%
Bottling Date	AUGUST 11, 2020
Release Date	SEPTEMBER 2021
Case Production	140