

L'Ecole

Nº 41

2018 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 Nº 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

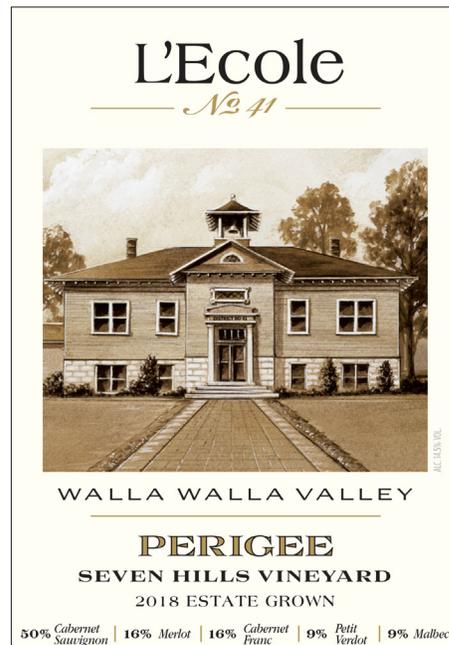
- Perfect dry harvest weather extended hang-time resulting in rich color and vibrant fruit flavors, another great vintage for Washington State.
- A late bud-break in mid-April was followed by a warm May with rapid canopy growth. A quick, even bloom set a uniform and healthy crop. A cool June contributed 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.
- 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

Perigee epitomizes this Estate vineyard's distinctive cedar and dark fruit, framed by a structured elegance. It explodes with aromas of spiced blackberry and boysenberry, tobacco and licorice, lifted by floral notes of violets and Provençal herbs. Velvety on the palate, it concludes with a complex and silky finish.



HARVEST DATA

Harvest Dates	SEPTEMBER 11 - OCTOBER 8, 2018
Average tons/acre	3.5
Average Brix	25.7°
Average pH	3.31
Average Acidity	6.7 g/L

WINE DATA

Composition	50% CABERNET SAUVIGNON, 16% MERLOT, 16% CABERNET FRANC, 9% PETIT VERDOT, 9% MALBEC
pH	3.65
Total Acidity	6.1 g/L
Alcohol	14.5%
Bottling Date	JULY 14, 2020
Release Date	OCTOBER 2021
Case Production	1,200