

L'Ecole

Nº 41

2019 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. 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

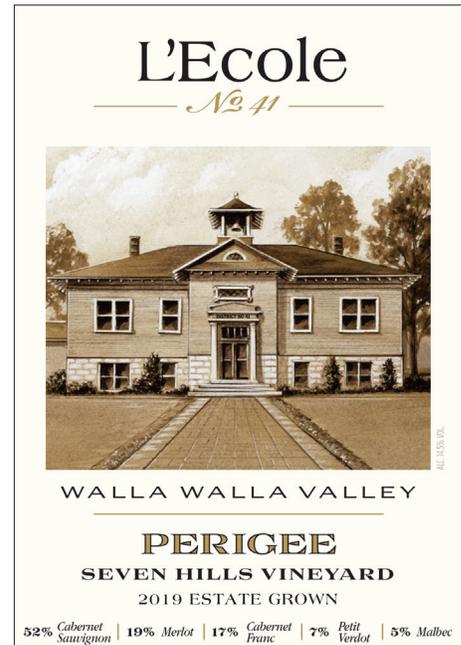
- An overall mild growing season and challenging harvest have nonetheless delivered a high-quality vintage for L'Ecole.
- A cold and snowy February/March delayed field pruning, resulting in budbreak late April to early May. A warm May accelerated canopy growth and the onset of bloom.
- Cooler July temperatures 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

- Nearly 40 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 with 40% new and barrel-aged for 22 months. Blending occurred in the spring following its vinification and the wine was gently filtered prior to bottling.

TASTING NOTES

Perigee epitomizes this estate vineyard's distinctive cedar and dark fruit, framed by a structured elegance. It explodes with pretty aromas of spiced wild berries including cassis and boysenberry, along with tobacco, pencil lead, and licorice that are lifted by floral notes of spring flowers and Provençal herbs. The finish is complex and silky.



HARVEST DATA

Harvest Dates	SEPTEMBER 17 - OCTOBER 18, 2019
Average tons/acre	3.3
Average Brix	24.9°
Average pH	3.25
Average Acidity	6.0 g/L

WINE DATA

Composition	52% CABERNET SAUVIGNON, 19% MERLOT, 17% CABERNET FRANC, 7% PETIT VERDOT, 5% MALBEC
pH	3.85
Total Acidity	6.0 g/L
Alcohol	14.5%
Bottling Date	JUNE 30, 2021
Release	FALL 2022
Case Production	1,010