

L'Ecole

N^o 41

2021 Syrah, Estate Seven Hills Vineyard Walla Walla Valley

WINEMAKER COMMENT

Washington State's climate and soil are ideally suited to maximize the varietal characteristics of Syrah. Crafted from some of the earliest Walla Walla Valley Syrah plantings, this wine manifests old world attributes of earth and spice, in combination with the new world profile of bold, expressive fruit.

SEVEN HILLS VINEYARD

L'Ecole N^o 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

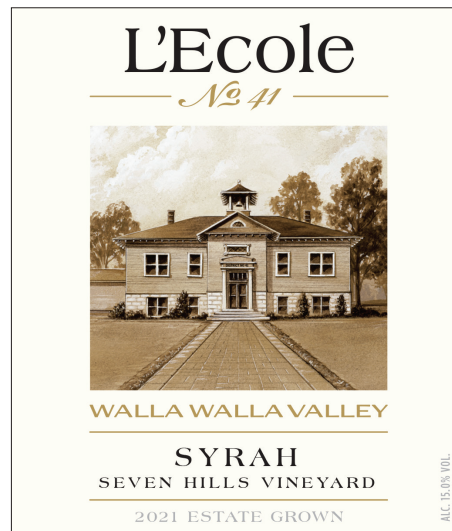
- A hot season yielded to cooler ripening weather during the fall resulting in unusually low yields, intense concentration, high acidity, and outstanding quality in what will likely become a memorable vintage.
- Bud break was average with a 10-day stretch of cold nights putting growers on frost watch.
- Warm spring conditions led to an early bloom, followed by a heat dome with record high temps in late June contributing to lower yields at the end of the season. Summer heat resulted in one of the hottest vintages on record, similar to 2015.
- Harvest started in late August with ideal fall weather leading to a balanced fruit ripening.
- Small berries, low yields, and cool harvest weather produced an outstanding quality vintage.

WINEMAKING

- 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 with 15% of the fruit fermented on stems while the remainder was gently crushed into 1.5-ton stainless steel fermenters.
- Gentle handling of the fruit through hand punch downs and gravity-assisted movements was utilized throughout the entire winemaking process.
- The wine was cleanly racked to French oak barrels, 25% new, and only racked once over 18 months. The wine is un-fined and was gently filtered prior to bottling.

TASTING NOTES

This bold, concentrated Estate Syrah exudes balance, marrying luscious fruit and savory aromas, including fresh blackberry, bacon, and lavender balanced by baking spice and black olive. The complex palate shows flavors of juicy black plum and spiced mulberry. The style is generous and silky, finishing with beautifully integrated tannins and a persistent finish.



HARVEST DATA

Harvest Dates	SEPTEMBER 4-6, 2021
Average tons/acre	3.36
Average Brix	25.4°
Average pH	3.52
Average Acidity	5.6 g/L

WINE DATA

Composition	100% Syrah
pH	3.79
Total Acidity	6.0 g/L
Alcohol	15.0%
Bottling Date	March 3, 2023
Release	FALL 2023
Case Production	1,170