

L'Ecole

No. 41

2011 Cabernet Sauvignon

Walla Walla Valley

WINEMAKER COMMENT

This wine is a blend of five prestigious vineyard sites representing three unique soil types in the Walla Walla Valley. Its old world structure, dense dark fruit flavors and elegant tannins exemplify the best of Walla Walla.

VINEYARDS

This Cabernet Sauvignon reflects the diversity of terroir in the Walla Walla Valley from vineyards planted in:

wind-blown loess – Estate Seven Hills, Summit View & Loess

river rock – Yellow Jacket

fractured basalt – Estate Ferguson

These prestigious vineyards are all Certified Sustainable and Certified Salmon Safe.

VINTAGE

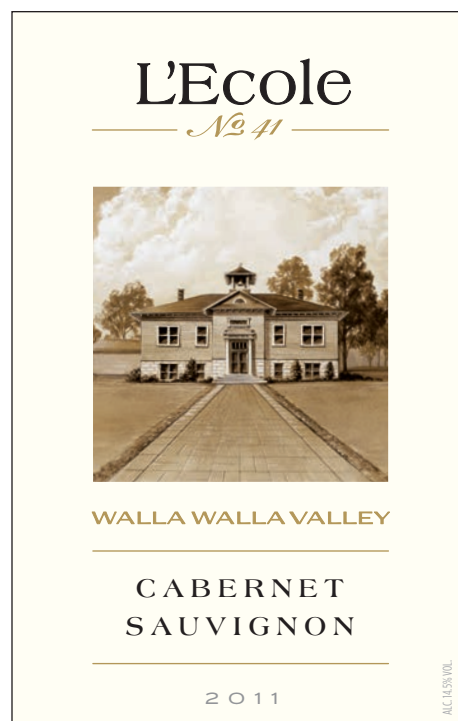
- 2011 continued the cool year La Nina weather pattern experienced on the West coast the past 2 years which presented some viticultural challenges. Yet by harvest's end we were smiling, with another promising quality vintage in hand.
- Pre-mature low Thanksgiving temps caused bud and tissue damage in some vineyards reducing harvest yields. Total impact was minimal in most locations.
- Cool, wet spring resulted in delayed bud break with bloom in late June/early July. Near normal July/early Aug fruit development surged with warmer late Aug/early Sept temps during veraison. We crop thinned and opened canopies to ensure full ripeness.
- A prolonged and typical October Indian summer stretched out the growing season, allowing us to reach full maturity at all vineyard sites.
- Higher natural acidity, longer hang-time and concentrated fruit from low yields resulted in brilliant color, flavor intensity and overall balance.

WINEMAKING

- Over 30 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 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 100% small French oak barrels, 40% new, with five rackings over 22 months.

TASTING NOTES

With an elegant, old world structure, this sophisticated Cabernet shows aromas of dark fruit, earth, and baking spices. A robust core of blackberry and plum with notes of currant and cedary tobacco are framed with polished tannins on a rich, harmonious finish.



HARVEST DATA

Harvest Dates	OCTOBER 17 – NOVEMBER 2, 2011
Average tons/acre	2.4
Average Brix	23.7°
Average pH	3.20
Average Acidity	6.9 g/L

WINE DATA

Composition	100% CABERNET SAUVIGNON
pH	3.70
Total Acidity	6.3 g/L
Alcohol	14.5%
Bottling Date	JULY 15, 2013
Release Date	MARCH 2014
Case Production	2,130