



2007 d'ARENBERG THE CUSTODIAN GRENACHE

Review Summary



93 pts “Underpinned by fine, almost fragile tannins, this long, persistent and savory Grenache has a lingering presence of spicy fruit. Scented with ethereal, floral aromas of raspberries, red cherries, cloves and cinnamon, its long, silky smooth palate finishes quite drying, with intense, vibrant berry fruit and a suggestion of currants.”

Jeremy Oliver
The Australian Wine Annual
2011

90 pts “What a powerful and lush wine that should drink beautifully for another 5 years or so. Medium to dark garnet color and semi sweet from the first to last sip. Lots of bright fruit with an emphasis on ripe cherry and raspberry. Great spice and licorice flavor with a bit of earthy funk in the end. You'll love this wine, no matter what type of red drinker you normally may be. Tangy and mildly tannic with a lovely lingering finish. I really enjoyed this wine and for under \$20 you have a great bargain here.”

www.midwestwineguy.com
January 2011

90 pts – Top 100 New Releases “A meaty, funky, typical d'Arenberg bouquet with some crushed ants and oak scents thrown in. It's taut, firm, intense and elegant on the palate. A character filled Grenache which manages to retain its vitality and is not overblown.”

Huon Hooke
The Australian Gourmet Traveler
December 2010

89 pts “It has a sweet, raspberried profile, an understated earthiness, leathery tannins and a feeling that everything is in its rightful place. It has the structure to age, the sweetness and aroma to seduce, and while it doesn't have a lot of mid-palate oomph, I reckon it will easily satisfy Aussie grenache fanciers. “

Campbell Mattinson
The Wine Front
February 2, 2010



89+ pts “Bright medium red. High-pitched raspberry and cherry aromas are complicated by notes of cracked pepper and fruitcake. Lively, sweet and quite primary, with a youthfully tangy quality and tightly wound flavors of red berries and spices. Darker berry notes arrive on the nicely focused and persistent finish.”

Josh Raynolds
Stephen Tanzer’s International Wine Cellar
July/August 2009

89 pts “It is dark ruby-colored with a perfumed nose of spice box and cherry. Sweetly fruited and juicy, it closely resembles a high level Cotes du Rhone. On the palate, it is a bit leaner and racier in style than the past few vintages. With excellent grip and balance, it can be enjoyed over the next 2-3 years.”

Jay Miller
Robert Parker’s The Wine Advocate
December 2009, Issue #186

89 pts “Light and crisp, with a gentle buzz of tannins around red berry and guava flavors, lingering on the focused, vibrant finish.”

Harvey Steiman
Wine Spectator
October 15, 2009

88 pts “The 2007 d’Arenberg Grenache The Custodian is 100% McLaren Vale Grenache and was aged for 12 months in mainly older, neutral French and American oak casks and barrels. Exhibiting ripe red fruits, cinnamon, spice, grilled meat, and assorted earthy, more savory qualities, the wine is medium bodied on the palate, showing sweet, yet focused fruit, good acidity, and firm underlying structure. I like the structure, and this improves with air; it should round out with another year in bottle, and drink well for 4-6 years.”

Jeb Dunnuck
The Rhone Report
June 2011

88 pts “On the quiet side for a Grenache, with reticent notes of spice, sangria and cassis. There’s the faintest grip of tannin and a crisp, strawberry-inflected finish.”

Joe Czerwinski
Wine Enthusiast
June 2010

SILVER MEDAL

Sommelier Challenge 2010



Top Drops “It’s earthy, rich and sweet fruited with a savory dryness that goes well with food a particularly good example that avoids the tendency to confection-like flavors that can be a turn-off. In the 2007 vintage the savory tannins feature more than usual, but as they’re backed by loads of fruit, it looks an age-worthy vintage.”

Sunday Canberra Times
December 2010

16.5 out of 20 “Raspberries and strawberries, almost Pinot-esque in its profile, until you get to the concentrated, juicy palate—classic Grenache structure, loads of body and alcohol, which works well together.”

Jancisrobinson.com
2010

Recommended Red

Ben Wienberg
Weinberg’s Wine Notes #102 - Unfiltered, Unfined
May 25, 2010

“Medium garnet in the glass, this wine smells of raspberry and green herbs. In the mouth the wine offers woody tannins that wrap around a core of raspberry and cherry fruit, with savory, even salty, dried herbs on the finish. Nice acidity. Score: around 8.5.”

Alder Yarrow
Vinography.com
April 10, 2010

“A rich, full-bodied wine with great depth and complexity, loaded with plum, vanilla and spices, and finished with a hint of cedar.”

Men’s Health – “16 Best Wines For Less Than \$16”
March 2010