

## 2009 d'ARENBERG THE FOOTBOLT SHIRAZ

WINEMAKER :	Chester Osborn
REGION :	McLaren Vale, South Australia
VARIETALS :	Shiraz
MATURATION :	12 months in new & older French & American barriques
ANALYSIS :	14.4% alc/vol   7.2 g/L TA   3.30 pH

### BACKGROUND :

Joseph Rowe Osborn, a South Australian racehorse owner of the early 1900s, happened upon a chestnut colt named "Footbolt" who delivered a winning streak of six races early in his career. From the winnings, Joseph was able to purchase the first of the d'Arenberg vineyards, and establish what are now the oldest vineyards in McLaren Vale.

### THE VINTAGE :

Sufficient winter rains set up the vines well with good canopies. December and most of January were very cool. There was a string of days above 100°F in late January, most Shiraz vines were going through veraison at this time and there was little negative impact. The mild weather that followed ensured that ripening was stress free and grapes showed good levels of natural acidity and balanced tannins.

### TASTING NOTES :

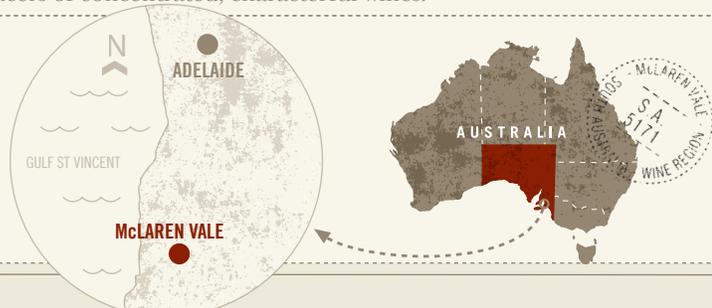
The nose is full of the fresh berries and spice synonymous with McLaren Vale, with a slight eucalypt lift. Secondary characters of sarsaparilla, cinnamon and clove which are expressed more completely as the wine opens up. The palate is mouth coating and plush with red and purple fruits mingling with orange peel and earth. There is a welcomed kick of five spice on the back palate. The lifted and fine fruit tannins provide structure and pull the wine together nicely. The Footbolt Shiraz has proven to cellar well for at least a decade.

### CRITICAL ACCLAIM :

94 pts Australian Wine Companion, 88 pts International Wine Cellar,  
88 pts - Best Buy Wine & Spirits

### ABOUT d'ARENBERG :

One of the undisputed kings of Australian Shiraz and Rhone varietals, d'Arenberg has managed to turn individuality into an art form by doing a whole lot of little things differently. The original vineyards were established by Joseph Osborn in 1912 in the McLaren Vale region of South Australia. A century on, the estate has grown to 345 acres, and the mantle now rests with fourth-generation winemaker Chester Osborn. By maintaining a focus on traditional winemaking and nurturing their old-vine material, the Osborn clan has successfully established themselves as one of the country's leading producers of concentrated, characterful wines.



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