



2005 THE CUSTODIAN GRENACHE

GARRY'S AND CHESTER'S WINEMAKING
PHILOSOPHY THE ART OF BEING
DIFFERENT



d'Arenberg winery has managed to turn individuality into an art form by doing a whole lot of little things differently. The names of their wines illustrate the point. We admit they are a bit odd, but because they have real significance, the stories behind the names are on the back labels.

VINEYARDS

In 1912, Joseph Osborn purchased the well-established vineyard just north of the township of McLaren Vale. Joseph's son, Frank, built d'Arenberg's cellars in 1927. By 1957, Frank's son, d'Arry, had bottled the first of the famous diagonal red striped wines.

Enter the fourth generation, d'Arry's son, Chester, who took over the reigns in 1984. In 1990, Chester was crowned, "McLaren Vale Bushing King," for producing the best table wine in McLaren Vale and in December, 2005, *The Wine Advocate* declared him, "Wine Personality of the Year."

HANDCRAFTED WINES AND BASKET PRESSING

Four generations of learning have provided current Chief Winemaker, Chester Osborn with an intimate knowledge of his vineyards (now totaling over 345 acres) and a healthy respect for the differing fruit characters obtained from the individual vineyard sites.

Nineteenth century basket presses are extensively utilized to press the fruit, both white and red, providing a gentle extraction of juice. Much of the red fruit is fermented in 5 ton wax-lined, headed down, open fermenters. Both American and French oak barriques are used extensively.

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REGION

McLaren Vale, South Australia

Varieties: 100% Grenache

**Maturation: Average of 12 months in new and older
American and French oak**

Technical Analysis: 14.5% alc/vol.

INFORMATION

In 1959 Francis d'Arenberg (d'Arry) Osborn began bottling d'Arenberg wines under the now famous Red Stripe label and today d'Arenberg is the keeper of nearly a 1/3rd of all of McLaren Vales old Grenache bush vines. d'Arry has now celebrated 65 consecutive vintages, with consistent critical acclaim and scores of Australian and international wine show trophies and gold medals awarded to d'Arenberg's coveted Grenache-based wines.

The 2005 Custodian is vibrant with red cherry center and looks fabulous. Upon pouring, fragrant Grenache notes of violets, ripe red-fruit jams, spice, strawberry, cranberry and mulberry characters with flowery, earthy, liquorice, pot-pouri notes developing as the wine opens up. The palate is medium bodied, fleshy with a concentrated array of red berries, dark sweet plums, strawberries and spicy softness. The wine is perfectly balanced between fruit weight, level of concentration, tannins and acidity as your mouth quickly salivates for a second helping. That's Grenache for you.

