



## 2005 d'ARENBERG d'ARRY'S ORIGINAL Review Summary



**93 pts** “Francis d’Arenberg Osborn, better known as d’Arry, developed this style in the late 1960s; his son, Chester, who makes the wine today, has taken some creative directions with other styles while continuing to defer to his father with this wine. And he nailed it in 2005. It’s classical McLaren, with full-bore strawberry and raspberry fruit blowing through curtains of tannins that feel fresh despite their earthy weight. Rustic and pretty. Buy a case or more. You won’t grow tired of it.”

**Wine & Spirits Magazine**  
February 2008

**91 pts** “Very much in the mainstream of the style, welding together ripe juicy fruit flavors, warm spices and a dash of regional chocolate; good length and balance.”

**James Halliday**  
2009 Wine Companion

**91 pts** “A brilliant, deep ruby color with purple rims leads to aromatic scents of ripe raspberry and spice with hints of smoky oak. There is firmness and texture in the ripe berry flavors, and the wine has good length and structure. The 2005 is drinking nicely now but will develop more complexity.”

**Gerald Boyd, Wine Review Online**  
April 10, 2010

**90 pts** “You can still find this vintage in some locales, even though three subsequent vintages have been released. That’s not a reflection on the wine, but rather the reality of the marketplace in a struggling economy. The 2005 has an earthy nose that leads to a big, jammy fruit impression in the mouth. Name a berry, and chances are you’ll taste at least a hint of it in this wine, joined by a mild spice note. It’s the perfect barbecue wine, and when we assessed it, also paired nicely with a chocolate brownie.”

**WineLinesOnline.com**  
October 23, 2011

**TOP 100 WINES OF THE YEAR - #73**

**Wine.com**  
December, 2009



### **CRITICS' PICKS, TOP 100 VALUES OF 2008**

"This may have Grenache but it's much deeper and smokier"...It's got those big, dark chewy tannins that signals shiraz"...It's a great, old-fashioned McLaren Vale red, the kind of classical, old-vine blend you don't see around much anymore. This 2005 is one of their best yet"...It's really voluptuous, great with venison with porcini and bacon."

**Wine & Spirits Magazine**  
**June 2008**

**BEST VALUE RED** "I fell in love with this wine with the first sniff. It is without a doubt one of the best I have seen under this famous red stripe label in the past 10 years. I had no hesitation naming it the best value wine. It has great structure and finesse with a seamless, highly focused palate delivering lush savoury red fruits. This to me is what under \$20 drinking is all about."

**Ray Jordan**  
**The West Australian Magazine's Great Red Tasting**  
**June 2008**

**FIVE STARS, TOP VALUE** "Perhaps the greatest wine in d'Arry's portfolio, his Original shiraz grenache is always consistent. Spice, plummy shiraz fruit and riper redcurrant grenache combine with firm but well judged tannins and savoury leathery flavours too. I've never had a bad bottle and the 2005 vintage continues this tradition. Sealed with a screwcap, it's unlikely there'll be any bad bottles."

**Fergus McGhee**  
**The Canberra Times 'Something Special'**  
**September 2007**

**88 pts** "The 2005 d'Arry's Original Shiraz (50%) – Grenache (50%) was aged for 12 months in French and American oak. It is purple-colored with aromas of violets, meat, black cherry, plum, and blueberry. Medium to full-bodied, it offers plenty of spicy red and black fruits, silky tannins, and good depth. It has several years of aging potential but can be enjoyed now. It is an excellent value."

**Robert Parker's The Wine Advocate**  
**October 2007, Issue 173**

**88 pts** "Bright in flavor and refined in texture, with plum and rhubarb notes mingling with cedar as the slightly gamy finish lingers."

**Wine Spectator**  
**October 15, 2007**



**89 pts** “Bright purple. Youthfully grapey on the nose, offering vibrant dark berry and cherry scents. Firm, restrained blackberry and cassis flavors display excellent focus and clarity, with fine-grained tannins giving the wine a firm structural underpinning. Finishes on a brisk, juicy note, with very good length. As usual, an excellent bargain.”

**Stephen Tanzer’s International Wine Cellar**  
July/August 2007, Issue 133

**“Presentation:** One of the classic Australian labels. Unmistakable branding. **Wine Style:** Spiced aromas. Beautifully ripe fruit with terrific balance and structure. **Value for money:** A bargain **Summing Up:** Pure class at this price point.”

**Wine Business Monthly, Australia’s Wine Business Magazine**  
**The Wine Clinic**  
July 2007