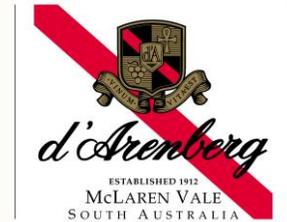




2009 d'ARENBERG THE CUSTODIAN GRENACHE

Review Summary



92 pts “The Custodian is a deeply colored and forthright Grenache in 2009, showing dark berries and blue fruits, plenty of wild raspberry too. The palate is supple, dense and full of flavor; tannins are rustic and charming. Plenty to get stuck into here.”

Nick Stock
Good Food Wine Guide
2013

90 pts “This 100% Grenache offers vibrant aromas and flavors of pomegranate, raspberry, cherry and plum with notes of earth and spice. It is fresh and ripe with good flavor intensity and richness. It is nicely balanced with firm tannins and has a long finish.”

Mike Potashnik and Don Winkler
i-winereview.com, The International Wine Review – The World of Grenache
November/December 2013

90 pts “This has a big grip of tannins, but the underlying blackberry, smoke and tar flavors have focus, power and depth. The tannins are daunting, as this is supposed to be a drink-me-now wine.”

Harvey Steiman
Wine Spectator
May 31, 2012

90 pts “Medium-deep garnet colored, the 2009 The Custodian Grenache offers a very spicy nose over notes of prunes, raspberry preserves and a whiff of sultanas. Medium to full-bodied, it offers plenty of spicy, warm berry flavors, velvety tannins and balancing acidity, finishing long.”

Lisa Perrotti-Brown
eRobertParker.com
December 23, 2011



90 pts “Deep, bright ruby. Aromas of raspberry liqueur, bitter chocolate and licorice. Sweet and plush but juicy, with supple texture to its flavors of cherry, red berries and candied rose. Creamy and open-knit, with very good immediate appeal. The sweet finish displays a lingering raspberry note.”

Josh Raynolds
Stephen Tanzer’s International Wine Cellar
July/August 2011

89 pts “A bright and juicy, forward and fresh, easy drinking wine, showing the variety's suitability to the region; red fruits with a savory dried herb conclusion.”

James Halliday
Australian Wine Companion
2012

GOLD MEDAL

Wrest Point Royal Hobart Wine Show
2012

GOLD MEDAL

Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo International Wine Competition
2011

GOLD MEDAL

The New Zealand International Wine Show
2011

“There’s something about those plump grenache flavours that warm the heart. This McLaren Vale wine is big and round with a core of dark, meaty fruit that has a rustic generosity. Typical grenache, really. Blackberries and cherries fire the opening salvo plums, florals and cinnamon to follow. It’s all very generous and full flavoured, the sort of wine you want to get stuck in to.”

Rick Allen
Manly Daily
April 2013

“The nose features sweet, lolly-like berry notes that follow through in the mouth. The flavor profile is driven by the fruit, emphasizing the grapes in the vineyard while the texture is quite silky with a little warmth – very nice.”

Ray Johnson
Rjwine.com
April 1, 2012



“Distinctive varietal cherry fruits with spice and some savory edges, but the key to this drop is a typical sweet spot that rises out of a robust finish.”

Tony Love
The Advertiser – “Attention seeking”
January 2012

“The McLaren Vale Custodian Grenache is a brute with a kind heart. Flexing its muscle with a strong and challenging aroma, first impressions of the Grenache through smell and deep color alone are enough to make you feel inadequate. The flavor, though, is something to behold. Elegant without being weak, the savory nature of the drop is what will stay with you. Value for money.”

Reg Ryan & Cameron Best
Wine Jury
January 2012

“McLaren Vale’s d’Arenberg now produces several reds from Grenache, one of the region’s great and proven varieties. In a couple of weeks we’ll be reviewing the new top-end versions, but today let’s taste the excellent, affordable Custodian, from the very good 2009 vintage. The color is limpid and bright and the aroma leans more to varietal spice and earth than it does to the sometimes ‘confection’ notes of the variety. The palate is rich, without heaviness or fleshiness, its flavors reflecting the spicy and savory aroma. Soft, slightly rustic tannins complete the picture of a savory wine built for drinking over the next 10 or so years.”

Chris Shanahan
The Canberra Times
September 2011