

2014 d'ARENBERG THE FOOTBOLT SHIRAZ

WINEMAKER :	Chester Osborn
REGION :	McLaren Vale, South Australia
VARIETALS :	Shiraz
MATURATION :	12 - 18 months in new & older French & American barriques
ANALYSIS :	14.6% alc/vol 6.9 g/L TA 3.52 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.

WINEMAKING :

Small batches of grapes are crushed gently and then transferred to five ton headed down open fermenters. These batches remain separate until final blending. Foot treading is undertaken two thirds of the way through fermentation. The wine is then basket pressed and then transferred to a mixture of new and used French and American oak barriques to complete fermentation. The barrel ferments are aged on lees, and there is no racking until final blending. This wine is unfiltered and unfined.

TASTING NOTES :

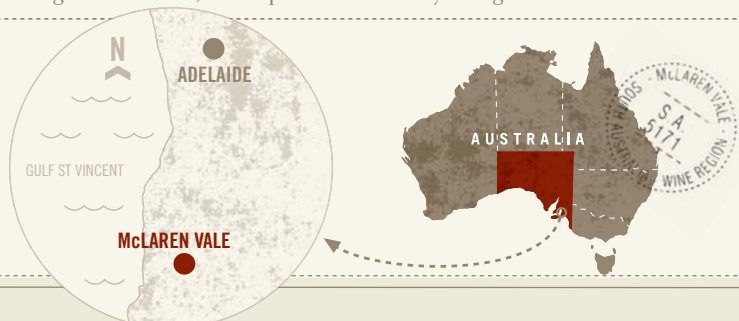
Aromas of black pepper, baking spices, licorice and aniseed are lifted by bucketloads of red and black plummy berry fruit. It's not just fruit and spice on the nose here though. This is a complex wine showing fresh mushroom and forest floor characters with hints of oak and glimpses of leather and pipe tobacco. The palate shows dark fruit, blood orange, charcuterie, and peaty earth wrapped around a robust core of chewy, round tannin.

CRITICAL ACCLAIM :

93 pts JamesSuckling.com, 89 pts Robert Parker Wine Advocate, 88 pts Wine Spectator

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. Ranked as one of the Top 100 Wineries and Top Value Brands in the world by Wine & Spirits Magazine in 2013, this reputation is clearly recognized worldwide.



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