

2014 d'ARENBERG THE CUSTODIAN GRENACHE

WINEMAKER :	Chester Osborn
REGION :	McLaren Vale, South Australia
VARIETALS :	Grenache
MATURATION :	9 months in new and seasoned American & French oak
ANALYSIS :	14.4% alc/vol 6.4 g/L TA 3.54 pH

BACKGROUND :

In 1959, Francis d'Arenberg (d'Arry) Osborn began bottling d'Arenberg wines under the now famous Red Stripe label. Today, d'Arenberg is the keeper of nearly 1/3rd of all of McLaren Vale's mature Grenache bush-vines. d'Arry has now celebrated 67 consecutive vintages, with consistent critical acclaim of their coveted Grenache-based wines.

WINEMAKING :

Winemaker Chester Osborn guides the finest small-batch Grenache parcels from the vintage through the gentle 'Demoisy' crusher, into open fermenters and then into 19th century basket-presses. Natural minimal processing ensures maximum flavor which results in a harmless deposit in the bottle. This wine will benefit from extended bottle aging and decanting.

TASTING NOTES :

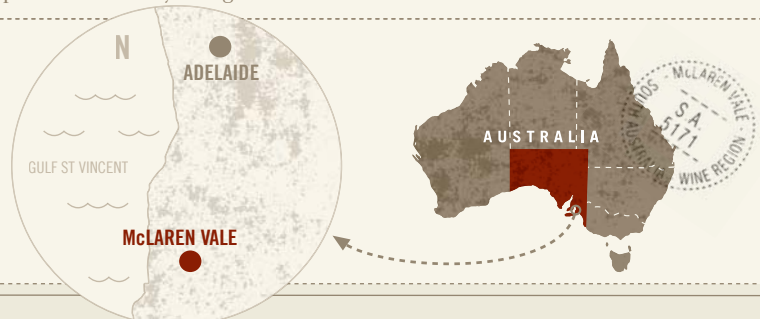
When Grenache is good you know it straight away. The nose is packed with fresh red fruit characters of raspberry, cherry and pomegranate, with complex notes of sooty black earth, coal dust, and cracked fennel seed in support. With time the palate also evolves from initial fresh red fruit characters into a darker brooding blackberry and Kalamata olive skin spectrum. The wine maintains its focus and drive on a long lingering palate held poised by a tight rhubarb-like acid line. The fine line is further supported by structured powdery lively tannin.

CRITICAL ACCLAIM :

91 pts Halliday Wine Companion, 89 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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