

2016 d'ARENBERG

THE BONSAI VINE GSM



WINEMAKER: Chester Osborn
REGION: McLaren Vale, South Australia
VARIETALS: Grenache (48%), Shiraz (47%), Mourvèdre (5%)
MATURATION: 12 months in new and older American & French oak
barriques
ANALYSIS: 14.7% alc/vol | TA: 6.5 g/L | pH: 3.52

BACKGROUND: These old, dry grown bush vines grow in shallow soils on hard rock, requiring hand pruning to keep producing berries in this harsh environment. The vines are very small for their age, their tiny shoots giving them a bonsai appearance.

WINEMAKING NOTES: Parcels of each varietal are gently crushed and fermented in small batches in traditional headed-down open fermenters, followed by foot-treading. The skins are then gently pressed in traditional 19th century 'Coq' and 'Bromley & Tregoning' basket presses prior to maturation in French and American oak barriques for 12 months. The barrel ferments are aged on lees, and there is no racking until final blending. There was no fining or filtration prior to bottling.

TASTING NOTES: This wine is showing the hallmarks of the warm, early 2016 vintage. It's full bodied and mouth-filling with luscious dark plum and mulberry flavors. The tannins are quite soft with spice and a little alcohol heat contributing to the finish. This is a drink now, fruit driven wine, well suited to food or without.

CRITICAL ACCLAIM: 92 pts JamesSuckling.com

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.

