

2016 d'ARENBERG THE DEAD ARM SHIRAZ



WINEMAKER: Chester Osborn
REGION: McLaren Vale, South Australia
VARIETALS: Shiraz
MATURATION: 18 months in French and American oak barriques
ANALYSIS: 15.0% alc/vol | TA: 6.8 g/L | pH: 3.51

BACKGROUND: Dead Arm is a vine disease caused by the fungus *Eutypa Lata* that randomly affects vineyards all over the world. Often affected vines are severely pruned or replanted. One half, or an 'arm' of the vine slowly becomes reduced to dead wood. That side may be lifeless and brittle, but the grapes on the other side, while low yielding, display amazing intensity.

WINEMAKING NOTES: 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 basket pressed and transferred to a mixture of seasoned French and American oak to complete fermentation and mature for up to 18 months. Unfined and unfiltered.

TASTING NOTES: This iconic wine always displays the power and intensity of McLaren Vale Shiraz, yet has elegance and refinement. The nose is vibrant and lifted, with aromas of boysenberry, sour plum and black peppercorns. The palate is long and lush, with tightly wound tannin and mouth-watering acidity. This wine finishes grippy and peppery, with rich earth and exotic spice characters. It should cellar for fifteen years plus.

CRITICAL ACCLAIM: 94 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.

