

2016 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: 14.3% alc/vol | TA: 7.7 g/L | pH: 3.50

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 NOTES: Small batches of grapes are gently crushed and then transferred to open fermenters. Foot treading is undertaken two thirds of the way through fermentation. The wine is then basket pressed and transferred to a mixture of new and seasoned oak barriques to complete primary and secondary fermentation and is aged on lees to keep the wine fresh. There is no racking until final blending and the wine is unfiltered and unfined.

TASTING NOTES: This is a great value comfort red. It's reflective of the warm 2016 vintage with plum, black fruits and licorice. It's quite complex for a wine at this price point with a good backbone of acidity and attractive earthy undertones. The oak is well integrated with medium level tannin, resulting in a wine that drinks well now but will also cellar for the next 5-10 years.

CRITICAL ACCLAIM: 92 pts JamesSuckling.com, 90 pts Wine Enthusiast

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.

