

2016 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: 14.5% alc/vol | TA: 6.5 g/L | pH: 3.49

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 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 basket pressed and transferred to a mixture of seasoned French and American oak to complete fermentation and mature. The barrel ferments are aged on lees, and there is no racking until final blending. This wine is bottled unfinned and unfiltered.

TASTING NOTES: This is a fuller bodied style of Grenache. There's masses of blood orange and amaro on the nose, with fleshy red fruits and savoury spice on the palate. The texture is great, with prominent rhubarb and pomegranate flavors. Nice acidity and slightly grippy tannin on the finish.

CRITICAL ACCLAIM: 91 pts JamesSuckling.com, 89 pts Robert Parker Wine Advocate

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.

