



2009 d'ARENBERG THE CUSTODIAN GRENACHE

WINEMAKER :	Chester Osborn
REGION :	McLaren Vale, South Australia
VARIETALS :	Grenache
MATURATION :	9 months in older American & French oak
ANALYSIS :	15.0% alc/vol 7.0 g/L 3.32 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 66 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 :

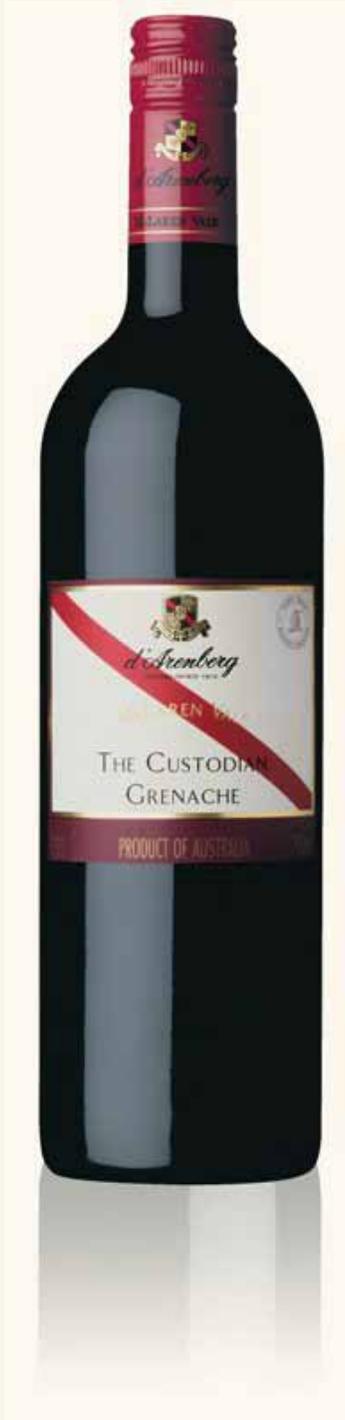
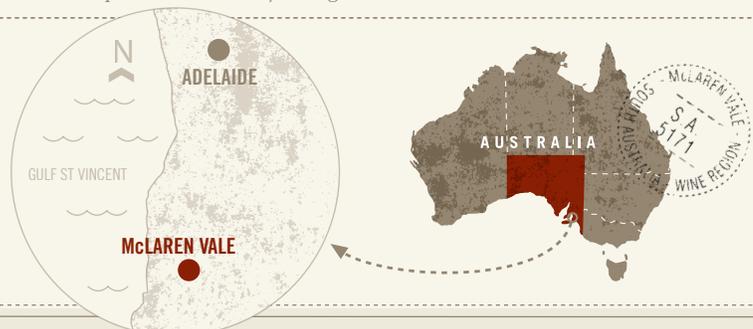
Bright red fruits, lavender, violets and spicy lift on the nose. The palate is full bodied and darker than previous years with a structural backbone of boney fruit tannin alongside plum, raspberry, mulberry and dark cherry with earth, smoked meats, dried herb and cinnamon. A serious and savoury expression of Grenache that will age well.

CRITICAL ACCLAIM :

90 pts International Wine Cellar, 89 pts James Halliday

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 among Australia's Top 10 Shiraz producers by Wine & Spirits Magazine in July 2007, this reputation is clearly recognized worldwide.



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