



2008 d'ARENBERG THE IRONSTONE PRESSINGS Review Summary



94 pts “A blend of Grenache, Shiraz and Mourvedre. There was a pungency when opened but when this blew off the complex fruit intensity came to the fore. The red fruit of Grenache is strongly evident on the nose, with some nice spices floating through the mix. The palate has a neat blend of gravelly licorice and ripe, dark mulberry and plum flavors.”

**Ray Jordan, The Weekend West – “Stunning Century”
March 2012**

93 pts “Deep color; dark and savory roasted meat, black fruits and tar bouquet; the palate is dense and chewy, with structure driving the wine, and the fruit providing support; firm and chewy to conclude.”

**James Halliday’s Australian Wine Companion
2012**

92 pts - Cellar Selection “This Grenache-based blend derives considerable structure from its Shiraz (38%) and Mourvèdre (7%) components, giving it more firmness, length and ageability than might be expected. Dark chocolate and berry aromas and flavors pick up hints of dried tobacco and other herbs, ending on a crisp note.”

**Joe Czerwinski, Wine Enthusiast
February 2013**

92 pts “Chester Osborn’s top selection of old-vine Grenache, Shiraz and Mourvedre, this is dry-farmed, foot-trod and basked-pressed into a fragrant, red and purple fruited beauty. Mourvedre brings a sausage meat and pepperoni-like spice to the sweeter strawberry flavors of Grenache. Allspice and a waxy fruit skin character add depth to the tannins. A traditional style, pressings in Australia are meant for long aging, and this will likely be at its best ten years or more from the vintage.”

**Joshua Greene, Wine & Spirits
October 2011**



92 pts “This is a classic GSM blend (70% Grenache, 25% Shiraz and 5% Mourvedre) from vineyards originally planted nearly a century ago. The fruit-laden nose fairly leaps from the glass, pumping out white pepper-laced blackberry, plum and cherry impressions. Shades of cinnamon and a hint of eucalyptus add to the complexity. In the mouth, flavors of blueberry and blackberry lead to licorice and earth at the finish. While smooth enough to enjoy in its youth, it has the structure to please over the next decade or more. A tasty wine to accompany barbecued meats.”

WinesOnline.com
December 2011

92 pts “Glass-staining ruby. Enticing aromas of black raspberry, pipe tobacco, licorice and incense. Lush, broad and sweet but firmly built, with an exotic candied dark fruit quality. At once deep and energetic, with strong inner-mouth perfume and excellent clarity. Finishes sweet and juicy, with a fine dusting of tannins and impressive length.”

Josh Reynolds, Stephen Tanzer’s International Wine Cellar
July/August 2010

91 pts “Composed of Grenache (55%), Shiraz (38%) and Mourvedre (7%), the 2008 The Ironstone Pressings GSM has a medium garnet-purple color and rubber and tar notes giving way to black currant cordial, blackberry juice, black raspberry, star anise and dried Mediterranean herbs. Full, voluptuous and generously fruited, it has medium-firm fine-grained tannins and crisp acid to support, finishing with good persistence. Approachable now, it should drink well to 2018.”

Lisa Perrotti-Brown, Robert Parker’s The Wine Advocate
December 2010

88 pts “Firm in texture, its chewy tannins wrapping around tightly wound cherry and tobacco flavors, lingering on a pointed finish.”

Harvey Steiman, WineSpectator.com
2012

GOLD MEDAL

China Wine & Spirits Awards 2013

GOLD MEDAL

2012 Korea Wine Challenge



“Ironstone is a rusty colored laterite granite stone with a high iron content which can be found in vineyards. The higher iron content adds a wonderful mineral freshness to this deep-colored wine. On the nose we have a few violet notes as well as blackberry, raspberry and a little allspice. A complex and layered wine, with fine-grained chalky and mineral tannins and ripe sweet red and black berries which are balanced by provincial herbs.”

Caroline Henry, Snooth.com
February 12, 2013

“An outstanding blend of Grenache, Shiraz and Mourvedre just settling in to a long maturity. Exquisitely rustic perfume of forest fruit, wild herbs and spice; rumbling, savory texture. Drink with rib-eye.”

Australian Gourmet Traveller
October 2012

“With no fewer than 33 grape varieties planted in their own vineyards, and fruit from over 100 McLaren Vale growers to select from, d’Arenberg has access to spectacular fruit and few wines in the range demonstrate that as effectively as this impressive blend of Grenache, Shiraz and Mourvedre, three varieties that thrive in the region. This is a pungent, powerful wine with great fruit and earthiness. It’ll probably cellar for up to 20 years.”

Windsor Dobbin, Sunday Examiner - Sunday Mag
February 2012