

2012 d'ARENBERG THE STUMP JUMP CABERNET MERLOT

WINEMAKER : Chester Osborn
REGION : McLaren Vale, South Australia
VARIETALS : Cabernet Sauvignon (50%), Merlot (50%)
MATURATION : 50% matured in seasoned oak casks for 6 months
ANALYSIS : 14.3% alc/vol | TA: 8.0 g/L | pH: 3.37

BACKGROUND :

The name 'Stump Jump' relates to the significant South Australian invention – the Stump Jump plough. This plough became a popular piece of machinery for ploughing fields because of its ability to ride over stumps and gnarled "mallee" Eucalypt roots and snags, saving valuable time and resources by not stopping the draught horse.

VINTAGE NOTES :

A wet summer and winter set the vines up perfectly for the 2012 vintage. Spring and summer were drier than normal, resulting in lower fruit yields. A small heat burst just prior to veraison assured a solid color change, small berries and pronounced tannins in the grapes. The red wines from this vintage are black, solid and quite structured, the biggest year for some time; not oily but definitely gutsy.

WINEMAKING :

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 then 50% is aged in French oak for six months.

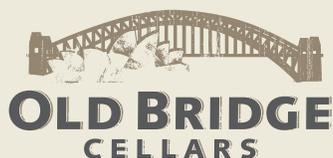
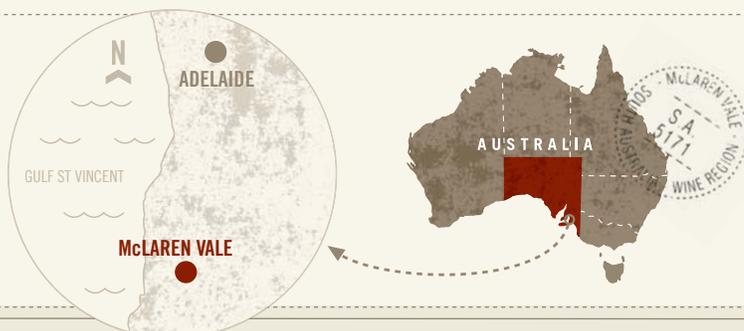
TASTING NOTES :

The nose and palate are brimming with purple fruits of cassis, mulberry and violets along with subtle herbal notes. The nice cedary edge adds savoriness and complexity. The mouthfeel is sleek and structured. The purple fruits are enveloped in a layer of fine, chalky tannins ensuring the flavors do not overwhelm the palate with sweetness but rather taper into a long and rewarding finish.

CRITICAL ACCLAIM: Not yet reviewed.

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.



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