

2016 d'ARENBERG d'ARRY'S ORIGINAL

Review Summary



91 pts/Best Buy/Year's Best McLaren Vale “d’Arry’s Original is one of the most consistent and consistently satisfying reds grown in South Australia. D’Arry Osborn, Chester’s father, developed it in the 1950s, having joined the family business in 1943 at the age of 16. It was a time when most McLaren Vale vineyards were devoted to grapes for fortified wines. In 1959, d’Arry released his first d’Arenberg Burgundy, with the red stripe on the label, the blend of grenache and shiraz that would become d’Arry’s Original in 1993. Chester makes it as his father did, in small open-top fermenters with headed-down boards to keep the cap of grape skins submerged. It’s foot trod, basket-pressed and aged in a mix of French oak barrels, emerging, with a few years of bottle age, as a cool, floral, zesty blend with crunchy heirloom-apple acidity and funky, meaty edges to the tannins. A firm and juicy red you could drink now or ten years from now.”

Joshua Greene
Wine & Spirits Magazine
February 2020

91 pts “This has rich raspberries and tarry blackberries with licorice notes, too. The palate has a very fleshy, vibrant and fresh edge with strong yet smooth tannins.”

Nick Stock
JamesSuckling.com
June 26, 2019

91 pts “A blend first released in 1969 and renamed in 1993 to honor D’Arry Osborn, the 2016 D’Arry’s Original Shiraz-Grenache is inky purple in hue. Scents of pencil shavings accent boysenberry and black cherry fruit on the nose, while the palate is full-bodied and concentrated. Hints of berry fruit, sage, bay leaf and black olives combine with dusty tannins to give the lengthy finish a welcome savory edge.”

Joe Czerwinski
Robert Parker Wine Advocate
May 14, 2020



90 pts “d’Arenberg’s classic power play between juicy, tangy fruit and muscular tannins is in full force here. Rubarb, plum, cherry cordial and peppery, earthy spice are hemmed in by chalky, taut and slightly aggressive tannins. Like a chiseled jawline, it is angular yet expressive, finely structured and attractive.”

Christina Pickard
Wine Enthusiast
December 2019

90 pts “A crowd pleaser with loads of flavor, allspice, warm earth, ripe red fruit and a whiff of menthol. Full-bodied, firm tannins and pomegranate tartness on the finish.”

Jane Faulkner
Halliday Wine Companion
2020

“You won’t find too many reds to match this McLaren Vale blend for quality and value. Winemaker Chester Osborn has blended shiraz and grenache – two of the varieties that thrive in the region – to produce a bold wine with plenty of flavor that is extremely easy to drink thanks to basket-pressing and maturation in older French oak. This is a terrific all-purpose red for pairing with pizzas, pastas, burgers, weddings, parties, anything.”

Winsor Dobbin
Ciao Magazine
May 2019