

2018 JOHN DUVAL WINES ANNEXUS MATARO

Review Summary



97 pts/2021 BEST OTHER RED WINES "It's all about putting the spotlight on fruit from a dry-grown centenarian vineyard in Light Pass. I love this. It's a commanding wine. It oscillates between deep, dark, spicy fruit to savoury, meaty flavours. It's long and pure, with poised yet determined tannins. I doubt Mataro gets any better than this. Respect."

Jane Faulkner
Halliday Wine Companion
August 6, 2020

95 pts "Deep, dark brooding red colour with a good tinge of purple, and a bouquet which is reserved and brooding, spicy and smoky, with a hit of char-oak. The wine is medium to full-bodied and deep, with generous ripe-fruit flavours in a savoury spectrum, solid and statuesque and far from the simplistic fruity styles of mataro. A core of sweet black plum. Richness, fleshiness, concentration and satisfying weight, ending in a long and firm-tanned aftertaste. A very smart mataro."

Huon Hooke
The Real Review
February 29, 2020

94 pts "Duval's Annexus wines are different each year, neatly showcasing the natural vintage variation of the region he knows so intimately. The 2018 unravels like a ball of twine, first with earthy, green herbal notes, then licorice and cherry cola, then black currant and a slightly metallic, sanguine nuance, like a slab of raw steak on a steel cutting board. There's tang and freshness to the palate which makes it feel less dense even while wound in muscular tannins. A Mataro (aka Mourvedre) of precision and finesse that walks a tightrope of elegance and power. "

Christina Pickard
Wine Enthusiast
April 30, 2021

92 pts "Dense, thick and spicy, with detailed Earl Grey tea, nutmeg and star anise aromas to the core of plump, juicy blackberry and blueberry flavors. The tannins are velvety and appealing, revealing tomato leaf and smoke accents on the finish."

MaryAnn Worobiec
Wine Spectator
July 31, 2020



89 pts “From vines in Light Pass planted more than a century ago, Duval’s 2017 Annexus Mataro is limited to only 250 cases. Only medium-bodied, it comes across as dark-fruited but quite tart. Notes of mocha, tree bark and black cherries start strong, but lack a bit of richness and texture on the palate, finishing crisp. This and the 2017 Annexus Grenache show just how difficult the 2017 Barossa vintage was even for some terrific growers and winemakers.”

Joe Czerwinski
Robert Parker Wine Advocate
July 31, 2020