

2018 JOHN DUVAL WINES ANNEXUS GRENACHE

Review Summary



96 pts “When 90% of the fruit comes off an Eden Valley ancestor vineyard (over 150yo) and 10% off old bushvines from northern Barossa, just take time to appreciate what’s in the glass. The wine unfurls with a heady elixir of sweet, briary fruit, gently spiced with a savoury overlay. It is lithe, not too big, yet flavoursome. Fine sandpaper tannins are perfectly poised and the acidity shines. Lovely drinking.”

Jane Faulkner
Halliday Wine Companion
August 6, 2020

95 pts “Deepish red colour with a modest tinge of purple. The bouquet is reserved and gently spiced, the palate medium to full-bodied and savoury, with ample but not excessive tannin and good balance. Oak is gently-handled and the wine has density and savouriness without compromising its immediate drinkability. There’s a neat core of sweet fruit buried within the savoury framework. It takes some time to open up and is worth the wait.”

Huon Hooke
The Real Review
February 29, 2020

94 pts “This is predominantly (90%) grenache from the Stonegarden Vineyard in the Eden Valley, offering a very attractive, dark-raspberry nose with spiced chocolate and gentle oak spice. Powerful fruit here. The palate has a vibrant, intense red-plum and raspberry core, some density to the tannins and a long surge of red fruit into the finish. Lovely depth and layering here.”

Nick Stock
JamesSuckling.com
November 11, 2020

93 pts “The medium to full-bodied 2018 Annexus Grenache is a step up from the 2017, showing more fragrance, richness and ripeness. Cherries and raspberries pick up rose and herbal elements, the palate is silky and generous, and the finish lingers just that little bit extra. There’s only older oak used in this 250-case bottling, so the varietal focus is indisputable, pure and refreshing.”

Joe Czerwinski
Robert Parker Wine Advocate
July 31, 2020



92 pts “Dense and concentrated, with perfumed notes of lavender, spiced plum, cherry, cranberry, clove and cinnamon. The tannins are firm but wonderfully fine-grained, providing a wonderful structure for the generous flavors.”

MaryAnn Worobiec
Wine Spectator
July 31, 2020

91 pts “Duval’s small production of “Annexus” Grenache has always been a dense, medium to full bodied bottling bound for the cellar, and the 2018 is no exception. Translucent and cherry-hued, it opens with bright red berry and blueberry fruit, flecked with black olives, flowers and notes of damp earth and undergrowth, all supported by a good lick of spicy, toasty oak. On the palate, elevated acidity feels uncharacteristic to the variety. Finely knit tannins are spicy and drying, but generous helpings of pure fruit and barrel influence take center stage. A power play between elegance and muscle, this should unfurl its beauty between 2023–2035.”

Christina Pickard
Wine Enthusiast
October 19, 2020