

2015 JOHN DUVAL WINES ANNEXUS GRENACHE

Review Summary



95+ pts "All grenache, all time. This is winemaking guru John Duval's two best grenache plots, including a parcel from 150-year-old vines. Open top fermenters play a part in the winemaking, as does an inclusion of whole bunch in the ferments. All older oak for the 12 months it hands out in barrel. If I was making grenache, this is how I would do it, says the sophist in me.

Power, grace, finesse, flavor, tannin-structure, deliciousness, drinkability. Couldn't ask for more. This is as elegant and seamless a grenache I have seen from Australia. Fine web of tannin gives additional succulence to cool, even, medium weight red fruit and spice flavors. Epic in length, total restraint, pure-feeling and energetic. It's beautiful wine here. Utterly."

> Mike Bennie The Wine Front July 7, 2017

94+ pts "Made from 100% Grenache, the medium garnet-purple colored 2015 Annexus has a seriously intense perfume of crushed cherries and black raspberries with roses and violets plus suggestions of anise, cinnamon stick and dark chocolate. The rich, powerful, concentrated palate sports beautifully velvety tannins with great freshness and a very long, peppery finish."

Lisa Perrotti-Brown Robert Parker Wine Advocate October 2016

94 pts "Brilliant, ruby color. Assertive, mineral-laced red berry liqueur, spicecake and floral pastille scents are complicated by suggestions of smoky minerals and white pepper. Offers juicy, sharply focused raspberry and cherry preserve flavors that show superb depth and a sweetening touch of candied lavender that emerges with air. The sappy, impressively long finish is given shape by supple, slow-building tannins that fold steadily into the wine's plush red fruit. All neutral French oak."

Josh Raynolds Vinous December2, 2021

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93 pts – Very Good+ "This slightly cloudy and ruby colored Grenache from down under opens with a very fragrant boysenberry and red raspberry bouquet. On the palate, this wine is medium bodied, slightly acidic and juicy. The flavor profile is a tasty mild boysenberry with notes of gentle minerality and plum. I also detected hints of mild oak, gentle black raspberry and black pepper. The finish is dry and its flavor fades away nicely. This elegant styled Grenache is very food friendly and would pair nicely with a filet mignon."

Ken Hoggins KensWineGuide.com July 19, 2017

92 pts "As is the case with most Barossa Valley grenache, you will either love or dislike the sweet fruit (not residual sugar-sweet) with or without confection, the last undoubtedly a Barossa Valley varietal character."

James Halliday Australian Wine Companion 2018

92 pts "From ex-Penfolds winemaker John Duval and made in part from vines over 150 years old, this Grenache offers a complexity and depth. This favors dark fruit on the nose and is chock full of intriguing aromas of cumin, clove, chocolate, sandalwood and mint. The palate offers more of the same multifariousness, with added minerality reminiscent of hot stones and graphite."

Christina Pickard Wine Enthusiast Best of Year 2017

92 pts "Distinctive, with cumin and caraway seed aromas that add a level of aromatic complexity to the dense, mineral-laced wild blackberry flavors. Shows plenty of concentration on the finish."

MaryAnn Worobiec Wine Spectator June 15, 2017

90 pts "A big and juicy grenache that has lots of full-throttle fruit yet still remains fresh and edgy..."

JamesSuckling.com July 17, 2017