

2016 d'ARENBERG THE LAUGHING MAGPIE

Review Summary



93 pts “Pretty aromatics and a generous palate make this wine easy to enjoy. Vanilla, choc-orange, plum and peppercorn flavours put on an attractive show. It’s mostly primary, but the first signs of development have this sitting in a good, mellow place.”

Campbell Mattinson
Halliday Wine Companion
August 1, 2020

92 pts “With 4% Viognier, the nose of this Shiraz-based wine offers an appealing mix of plum, fig cake, mocha, olive and large helpings of savory spice. The palate is power-fully tannic and chalky in texture. Nevertheless, the spicy, brambly fruit finds its way to the fore, providing much needed softness. Give this a decant or airtime or plenty of protein if drinking now.”

Christina Pickard
Wine Enthusiast
October 19, 2020

91 pts “Bold aromas of cherries, yellow plums and other orchard fruit here. Some brown spices, too. Very upbeat, fruit-driven palate that carries such plump, fleshy, ripe red-plum and berry flavors.”

Nick Stock
JamesSuckling.com
May 26, 2020

89 pts “d’Arenberg’ 2016 The Laughing Magpie Shiraz Viognier includes 4% Viognier, historically on the low side for this bottling. It’s imperceptible on the nose, which shows plenty of dark, plummy fruit, hints of barrel char and a wisp of menthol. On the palate, the wine is medium to full-bodied, fairly round and generous for a d’Arenberg wine—that’s likely where the Viognier influence is felt the most—then firmer and more tannic on the finish.”

Joe Czerwinski
Robert Parker Wine Advocate
May 14, 2020



88 pts “Dense and rustic, with chewy tannins and notes of dried black olive, leather and mineral that add savory details to the blackberry and huckleberry flavors at the core.”

MaryAnn Worobiec
Wine Spectator
November 15, 2020

88 pts “Deep, dense colour, with a fummy, super-ripe, high-alcohol aroma. It’s full-bodied and savoury, chewy and thick-textured, lacking elegance and freshness. It does have plenty of weight and flavour, underlined by abundant drying tannins that border on astringent. It demands high-protein food.”

Huon Hooke
The Real Review
October 11, 2020