

2018 d'ARENBERG

THE DERELICT VINEYARD GRENACHE



WINEMAKER: Chester Osborn
REGION: McLaren Vale, South Australia
VARIETALS: Grenache
MATURATION: 12 months in seasoned French oak barriques
ANALYSIS: 14.5% alc/vol | TA: 7.2 g/L | pH: 3.39

BACKGROUND: At a time when Grenache was considered unfashionable, Chester acquired many old bush vine, overgrown and abandoned vineyards. These vineyards still have a slightly dishevelled appearance, but they are back producing very low yields of exceptional fruit.

WINEMAKING NOTES: Small batches of grapes are gently crushed and then transferred to five-tonne headed down open fermenters. These batches remain separate until final blending. Foot treading occurs two-thirds of the way through fermentation, then the wine is basket pressed and transferred to old French barriques to complete fermentation. The barrel ferments are aged on lees, there is no racking until final blending and no fining or filtration.

TASTING NOTES: An abundance of fruit on the nose, with all the classics, blueberry, plum, licorice, spice and earth. A juicy and generous palate with a seam of crunchy tannin and lively acid that add structure and fresh punch to the wine. All of these big rich fruits are wrapped around a graphite almost ferrous-like framework.

CRITICAL ACCLAIM: 93 pts JamesSuckling.com, 92 pts Wine & Spirits, 92 pts Halliday Wine Companion

ABOUT d'ARENBERG: One of the undisputed kings of Australian Shiraz and Rhone varietals, d'Arenberg has managed to turn individuality into an art form by doing a whole lot of little things differently. The original vineyards were established by Joseph Osborn in 1912 in the McLaren Vale region of South Australia. A century on, the estate has grown to 345 acres, and the mantle now rests with fourth-generation winemaker Chester Osborn. By maintaining a focus on traditional winemaking and nurturing their old-vine material, the Osborn clan has successfully established themselves as one of the country's leading producers of concentrated, characterful wines. Consistently ranked as one of the Top 100 Wineries in the world by Wine & Spirits Magazine, this reputation is clearly recognized globally.

