

THE TWENTY EIGHT ROAD

Mourvèdre 2007

McLaren Vale, Mourvèdre (100%)



The Name

Twenty Eight Road acts as the eastern boundary of the Osborn vineyard and the d'Arenberg winery. Most of the grapes for this wine are sourced from a 3.6 acre block of bush vine Mourvèdre that runs parallel with the road. The vineyard was planted in 1918 by the first and second generations of the Osborn family.

The Vintage

Owing largely to drought and a warm start to Summer, the 2007 vintage started extremely early. These conditions caused short shoot length and reduced berry and bunch sizes. In late January a 50mm downpour reduced yields further, but was a welcome relief. Moderately warm weather followed to ripen the fruit in low stress conditions that resulted in good flavour concentration and excellent levels of natural acidity. Despite being a tannic year this wine is nicely balanced. This is achieved by a very hands on and gentle winemaking approach.

The Winemaking

Small batches of grapes are gently crushed and then transferred to open fermenters. Foot treading is undertaken two thirds of the way through fermentation, the wine is basket pressed and transferred to a mixture of old French oak to complete fermentation. The barrel ferments are aged on lees, there is no racking until final blending and no fining or filtration.

The Characteristics

The aroma opens with cherries and blackberry that make way for characters of charcuterie with a floral background of violets, potpourri and a touch of lavender. The palate is focused and shows restraint with fruits in the red spectrum well in check and balanced with defining savoury characteristics of ripe dried herbs, roasted vegetables, cooked meats and a pleasant and varietal iodine character. The palate builds with thyme adding complexity to the finish with long gritty tannins. Tightly structured this wine will reward cellaring. Decanting recommended.



Harvest dates	15 Mar - 12 Apr	Alcohol	14.5%
Residual sugar	0.7 g/l	Titrateable acid	6.9
pH	3.34	Oak maturation	10 months
Chief Winemaker	Chester Osborn	Senior Winemaker	Jack Walton