



## 2012 LONGHOP OLD VINE GRENACHE REVIEWS

CAMPBELL MATTINSON THE WINE FRONT DEC 2013  
94 POINTS

Longhop is such a fertile hunting ground for well-priced, well-flavoured reds.

This is classy. It's warm with alcohol but it gets away with it. It's flush with sweet raspberry, leather, chicory, deeper blackberried notes and an array of dried Italian herbs. Texture and fruit oomph it has nailed. And its tannin curls out deliciously through the finish. It is a ripper release.

PHILIP WHITE INDAILY & DRINKSTER  
92 POINTS

Longhop Mount Lofty Ranges Old Vine Grenache 2012

In the Grenache fashion parade, this is a muscular model of vague gender, stomping somewhere along the catwalk between McLaren Vale and the Barossa Valley floor. Because of its proximity to the Gulf named St Vincent (the patron of viticulturists), I think the higher relative humidity of McLaren Vale makes softer, more soulful cherry-flavoured Grenache than the more macho tar-blood-leather-roses of the drier Barossa.

This baby's looking like it started near the Barossa and is heading, chin up, straight toward McLaren Vale. Like most of the wines from this admirable outfit, it has that acrid summer day in the country edge. It's enough to make your nostrils flare until that swoon of bright marello cherry and plum, and maybe a little fresh juniper berry, begins to well up. At first, I imagined this fleshy bit would continue to swell, but I've had it open three days, and it's barely moved, so maybe it's not going anywhere in the short term. It certainly has the attitude and chassis for the longer haul. Combining the Torzi-Matthews-Freeland mob's admirable obsession with gnarly old bush vine vineyards with the news that this one's a fifty year old vineyard begins to explain its tight, unyielding structure and determination. So, whatter we gonna do? Slop it around a ship's decanter for a while and chew it with rabbit or pigeon in red wine with baby beetroot, some pork belly fat, juniper berries and onions, or wait five years and have it tea-smoked duck at Wah Hing. It's another fine example of the really good stuff happening in this renaissance of interest winemakers are devoting to Grenache, all the way down the South Mount Lofty Ranges from Clare to the ocean.

MAX ALLEN - THE AUSTRALIAN - DEC 2013

...The wine that changed the most was the 2012 Longhop Old Vine Grenache (\$17), from a vineyard north of Adelaide. A bit simple, jammy and overripe on the first day, it revealed layers of exotic spicy flavour after 24 hours breathing. This is a bargain red: just make sure you splash it into a big jug an hour or so before drinking to taste it at its best.