



2005 LEEUWIN ESTATE ART SERIES CHARDONNAY

WINEMAKER: Paul Atwood
REGION: Margaret River, Western Australia
VARIETALS: Chardonnay
MATURATION: 11 months in French barriques
ALCOHOL: 14.5% alc/vol.

VINTAGE NOTES:

A mild winter and gentle spring winds allowed for good flowering and berry set. The summer was generally dry, warm and clear with few hot days. The cool nights and warm days over the harvest period enabled the development of fabulous fruit varietal characters.

WINEMAKING:

The fruit was cool crushed with some skin contact. The juice was settled for 4 days, racked and inoculated with yeast. 100% of the juice was barrel fermented in new French barriques with the lees stirred every two to three weeks over the 11 months. After 11 months in barrel, the various components were blended, fined, cold stabilised and bottled.

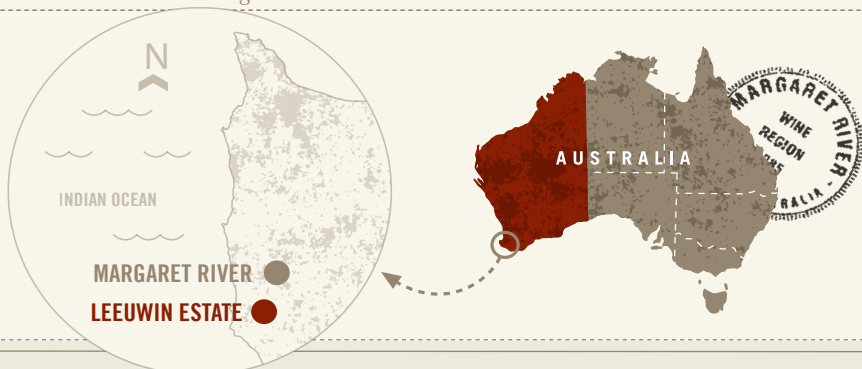
TASTING NOTES:

Leeuwin Estate produces Australia's, and one of the world's greatest Chardonnays. The 2005 Art Series Chardonnay is classic Leeuwin, with intensely lifted aromas of ripe yellow pear skins, citrus blossom, nectarine and ripe peach accompanied by hints of fig and cashews from barrel maturation. The flavors combine into a finely balanced bouquet; the result of very low yielding vines matched with subtle winemaking to preserve the richness of the fruit. The palate displays mouth-filling flavors of ripe pear intermingling with delicious stone fruit and nectarine. The new French oak complements the fruit, providing a wonderful balance of warm toasty flavors on the finish. This elegant wine will continue to develop with time in the cellar.

CRITICAL ACCLAIM: 97 pts - James Halliday's Wine Companion, 96 pts - Robert Parker's The Wine Advocate, 95 pts - Wine Spectator, 94 pts - Stephen Tanzer's International Wine Cellar, 93 pts - Wine Enthusiast, 90 pts - Wine & Spirits

ABOUT LEEUWIN ESTATE:

After an extensive search in 1972 for the most suitable premium viticultural area in Australia, Robert Mondavi singled out the future site of Leeuwin Estate. Thrust into the international spotlight when their 1980 Art Series was awarded Decanter's highest recommendation, the Estate has since performed with stellar consistency, the Horgan family defending their position as one of Australia's leading wineries.



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