



2007 LEEUWIN ESTATE ART SERIES SHIRAZ

WINEMAKER: Paul Atwood
REGION: Margaret River, Western Australia
VARIETALS: Shiraz
MATURATION: 22 months in French oak barriques
ANALYSIS: 14% alc | 6.9 g/L TA | 3.50 pH

VINTAGE NOTES:

Winter 2006 was mild, with lower than average rainfall resulting in early bud burst. A warm and sunny spring produced excellent conditions for flowering and fruit set, with bunches generally smaller and fewer in number as a result of poor initiation the previous year. The beginning of summer was warm with little rainfall, and continuing mild to warm weather saw red varieties harvested several weeks earlier than usual with excellent flavour development.

VINIFICATION:

Fermented in open vessels with 20% whole bunch inclusion to extend the fermentation and provide additional complexity. Plunged three times daily before being run to new, one and two year old barrels for malolactic fermentation. The wine was matured separately in the individual vineyard parcels and after ten months the various components were blended and aged in barrels for a further 12 months. The wine was then assembled, fined and readied for bottling.

TASTING NOTES:

Deep violet with brilliant purple edges. The nose shows cracked pepper with ripe blackberry, plums and mulberries, alongside hints of chocolate and dusty oak. The full palate continues with plum and blackberry fruits, displaying wonderful intensity of fruit. Fine tannins draw the flavors out across the palate with great persistence. This is an immaculately structured and seamless wine, one of the best produced at Leeuwin Estate.

CRITICAL ACCLAIM: 91 pts Robert Parker, 91 pts Stephen Tanzer, 90 pts Wine Spectator, 90 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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