

UPC: 767749 006655

2010 LEEUWIN ESTATE PRELUDE VINEYARDS CABERNET MERLOT

WINEMAKER: Paul Atwood
REGION: Margaret River, Western Australia
VARIETALS: Cabernet Sauvignon (80%), Merlot (14%), Malbec (4%), Petit Verdot (2%)
MATURATION: 18 months in French oak barriques (30% new)
ANALYSIS: 13.2% alc/vol | TA: 6.2 g/L TA | pH: 3.60

VINTAGE NOTES:

Excellent winter and early spring rains recharged the soil profile for the dry summer season ahead. Flowering dates for all varieties were about average, conditions were generally fine and mild. Summer was fine, warm and sunny with few hot days. Warm, clear days, with cooling afternoon sea breezes continued into March.

WINEMAKING:

Fermentation took place in closed and open fermenters at hot temperatures with extraction by pumping over each individual lot three times daily. After malolactic fermentation entirely in barrels and nine months of barrel ageing, the different components are blended for ageing in French barriques for a further nine months.

TASTING NOTES:

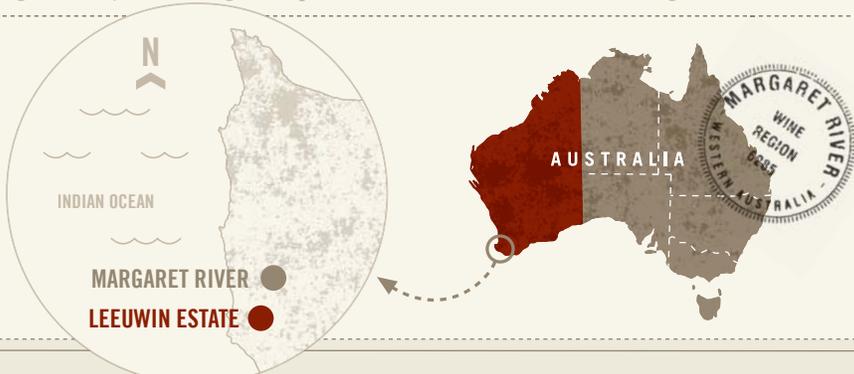
An integrated and layered nose, characterized by varietal blackcurrants, ripe dark cherries and a hint of cassis laced with dried sage, tobacco, cassia bark and cumin. Fragrant lavender, mocha notes and subtle oak char give rise to a very attractive nose. Finely textured and contoured, the palate is highlighted by a soft mouth feel and gentle fruit weight, threaded with a delicate mineral acid line. Restrained black fruits weave together with coffee bean and fresh cigar notes, finishing with long silky tannins.

CRITICAL ACCLIAM:

90 pts Stephen Tanzer's International Wine Cellar

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 in Margaret River. 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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