



2011 LEEUWIN ESTATE ART SERIES CABERNET SAUVIGNON

WINEMAKER: Paul Atwood
REGION: Margaret River, Western Australia
VARIETALS: Cabernet Sauvignon (92%), Malbec (8%)
MATURATION: 23 months in 100% French oak barrels (50% new)
ANALYSIS: 13.5% alc/vol. | TA: 6.67 g/L | pH: 3.47

VINTAGE NOTES:

Rainfall came early and dams filled to capacity by early winter. Flowering of all varieties occurred in fine and sunny spring weather and excellent crops were set. Warm weather continued through to December with few rainy days. In January 1.6 inches of rain allowed the unirrigated vineyards to get a much needed deep drink allowing stress free veraison and ripening. In general, the summer was perfectly warm and sunny tempered with cool afternoon sea breezes. In late March temperatures cooled off allowing the development great varietal intensity. An excellent vintage.

BACKGROUND:

A Margaret River powerhouse, the Art Series Cabernet Sauvignon is made in a long lived style due to its ample fruit and sturdy frame. Often described as “Bordeaux like,” the core of the fruit comes from 30+-year-old vines grown in well-draining gravel/granite derived soils. The Art Series range is identified with paintings commissioned from leading contemporary Australian artists.

TASTING NOTES:

A concentrated dark fruit spectrum with an abundance of ripe blackcurrants, cherries and a hint of cassia. Coffee bean, dark chocolate and black olives lie beneath. Subtle dustiness combines with a seductive violet lift, enhancing the varietal fragrance and increasing complexity. The mouthfeel is dense and layered with incredible texture. The generosity of the palate is carefully laced with a fine and structural acid line. Dark cherries and currants weave through smoky and mocha notes, finishing with long tactile tannins.

CRITICAL ACCLAIM: 94 pts Australian Wine Companion, 93 pts Vinous, 91 pts The Wine Advocate, 90 pts Wine Spectator

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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Tel (707) 258 9552 • Fax (707) 258 9577 • www.obcwines.com • cellar@obcwines.com