

## 2013 LEEUWIN ESTATE PRELUDE VINEYARDS CHARDONNAY

**WINEMAKER:** Paul Atwood  
**REGION:** Margaret River, Western Australia  
**VARIETALS:** Chardonnay  
**MATURATION:** 9 months in 100% French oak barriques (40% new)  
**ANALYSIS:** 14.0% alc/vol | 7.21 g/L TA | 3.17 pH

### VINTAGE NOTES:

Winter was characterized by south westerly fronts sweeping showery rain into Margaret River from the Indian Ocean. In early spring the usual showery days were followed by long fine breaks, good conditions for vine growth. In very late spring there was 3 days of strong winds associated with rain and some significant hail. This weather system produced smaller and looser bunches in the late flowering varieties. Summer was warmer than average, with whites were harvested by early March, they are typically crisp, with line and varietal focus.

### WINEMAKING:

Cool crushed fruit with some skin contact. The juice was settled for three days, racked and inoculated with yeast. 100% of the juice was barrel fermented in French Barriques and the lees stirred regularly. After nine months in barrels the various components were blended, fined, cold stabilized and bottled.

### TASTING NOTES:

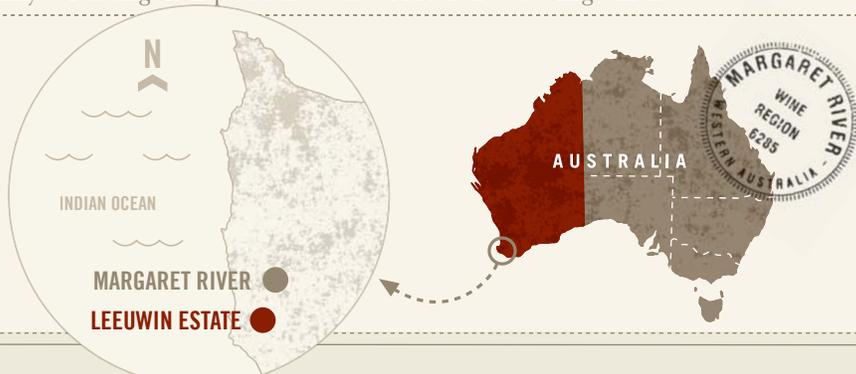
Delicate and restrained, the nose exhibits nashi pear, cut limes and white peach; interwoven layers of sesame, pecans, wheat biscuits and nougat, nurtures the primary fruits. Heightened floral notes of jasmine and lemon blossom lifts the nose giving fragrance, purity and subtle complexity. The palate is directed and focused; symmetry aligns around lemon, grapefruit and pear skin, through creamy oak, blanched almonds and sweet spice, leading to a finish that is hallmarked by bright natural acidity with incredible length and persistence.

### CRITICAL ACCLAIM:

94 pts Australian Wine Companion, 91 pts Wine Spectator, 91 pts Vinous, 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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