



2008 LEEUWIN ESTATE ART SERIES CHARDONNAY

WINEMAKER: Paul Atwood
REGION: Margaret River, Western Australia
VARIETALS: Chardonnay
MATURATION: 12 months in 100% new French oak
ANALYSIS: 14.5% alc | 6.8 g/L TA | 3.39 pH

VINTAGE NOTES:

A remarkable but relatively early vintage. Harvest took place during some of the hottest March days ever recorded. While Perth sweltered at 107°F, Margaret River – betwixt two oceans – recorded 99°F. The overall berry development pointed to a great year.

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 12 months. After 12 months in barrel, the various components were blended, fined, cold stabilised and bottled.

TASTING NOTES:

An incredibly complex and lifted bouquet of ripe golden pear skin, peach, savory toasted ground almonds and white nectarine. This wine is showing multiple layers of fruit and subtle class driven French oak. The result of very low yielding vines matched with subtle winemaking preserves the richness and intensity of fruit. The palate displays a full bodied vibrant wine on the entry, with a creaminess and intense purity of fruit. Pear, nectarine and peaches are the main fruit flavors followed by a subtle sweet spice and almonds. The flavors are seamlessly long with a wonderful natural acid finish.

CRITICAL ACCLAIM: 95 pts Robert Parker's The Wine Advocate, 93+ pts Stephen Tanzer's International Wine Cellar, 93 pts Wine Spectator, 93 pts Wine Enthusiast

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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