

2011 LEEUWIN ESTATE SIBLINGS SAUVIGNON BLANC SEMILLON

WINEMAKER: Paul Atwood
REGION: Margaret River, Western Australia
VARIETALS: 73% Sauvignon Blanc, 27% Semillon
MATURATION: 30% for 3 months in seasoned French oak
ANALYSIS: 13.5% alc/vol | 7.2 g/L TA | 3.34 pH

VINTAGE NOTES:

A terrific vintage beginning with a wet winter with the above average rainfall. While flowering occurred in cloudy, cool weather, towards the end of November the weather changed quickly to more typical long, sunny days with afternoon sea breezes. Veraison began in early January and Leeuwin Estate had excellent fruit quality throughout the vintage, with most blocks yielding a 20% increase over what was forecasted. The larger bunch weights worked to the winery's advantage and the wines are showing a wonderful elegance with a searing intensity not normally associated with hot ripening years.

WINEMAKING:

The grapes were picked, crushed and left on skins for around six hours prior to gentle pressing. The cold settled juice was then racked and inoculated with pure yeast cultures, with a portion barrel fermented and the remainder fermented in stainless steel followed by 30% of the wine maturing for three months in older French oak barrels.

TASTING NOTES:

The vibrant, pale straw wine displays intense passionfruit, orange and lime zest together with gooseberry and dusted jube notes. The palate is bright and juicy with layers of textured lemon, lime and pink lady apple ending in a balanced long finish, with lingering acidity.

CRITICAL ACCLAIM:

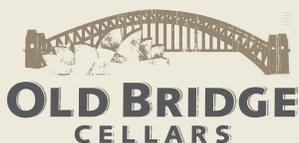
89 pts Australian Wine Companion, 89 pts Wine Spectator, 88 pts Stephen Tanzer's International Wine Cellar

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. 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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