

## 2012 LEEUWIN ESTATE ART SERIES CHARDONNAY

### Review Summary



**98 pts** “A very youthful bright green-quartz color sets the scene for a riveting wine of exquisite purity and finesse. It almost floats in the mouth, so effortless is its invocation of all things Chardonnay: white flowers, white stone fruits and immaculately balanced acidity. Oak? Well, yes it’s there, but rendered mute by the fruit. Has greater staying power than any other Australian chardonnay.”

**James Halliday, Australian Wine Companion  
2017**

**97 pts** “If price wasn’t a concern we’d all just want to drink bucket loads of this. It’s all class and quality but the drinkability factor is extremely high. It’s like sitting with someone expert in the art of conversation; it makes you laugh and cry and lean in closer. Fruit, oak, texture, acidity, length: a hand full of aces, neatly arranged, trim and terrific.”

**James Halliday, Australian Wine Companion  
2016**

**95 pts** “A wine with amazing richness and depth. So much apple pie character yet minerally underneath. Full body, so much length. Gorgeous.”

**Nick Stock, JamesSuckling.com  
February 9, 2016**

**94 pts** “Leeuwin’s Chardonnay continues to be a standard-bearer for Margaret River and all of Australia. The 2012 Art Series is subtly toasty on the nose, blossoming with time into full-on crème brûlée aromas, while the palate offers creamy-textured notions of tropical fruit and custard. The long finish reverberates with fruit, suggesting plenty of aging potential, up to 10 or 12 years.”

**Joe Czerwinski, Wine Enthusiast  
June 2016**

**94 pts/Top 100 Wines of 2015 - #76** “Amazingly focused, layered and expressive, with pear, lime, guava and floral flavors that meld harmoniously and linger on the creamy finish. Deftly pulls all the elements together into a cohesive whole, lingering effectively and precisely.”

**Harvey Steiman, Wine Spectator  
2015**



**94 pts** “Light, bright yellow. Musky pear skin and honeydew on the nose, with jasmine, ginger, vanilla and smoky mineral nuances adding complexity. Juicy, seamless and sharply focused, offering concentrated citrus and orchard fruit flavors that flesh out and become spicier with aeration. The mineral and floral qualities come back strong on the strikingly persistent, seamless finish. There’s no way I’d have guessed that this wine was aged in all new oak.”

**Josh Reynolds, Vinous**  
March 2016

**92+ pts** “The 2012 Chardonnay Art Series shows evolving toast and marzipan notes over a core of ripe apricots, candied ginger and butterscotch. Medium to full-bodied in the mouth with a satiny texture, the palate possesses a wonderful concentration of stone fruit and spice flavors with plenty of racy freshness and a good long finish.”

**Lisa Perrotti-Brown, Robert Parker’s The Wine Advocate**  
March 2016

**Exceptional** “The wine that changed the face of Australian Chardonnay and got others to emulate the style. This wine has a citrus and cream aroma with obvious oak, but it all works within the context of great white Burgundy.”

**Dan Berger, Dan Berger’s Vintage Experiences**  
June 4, 2015

**50 Star Buys of 2015** “Honeyed melon and butter aromas. Big and bold with refined acidity and a creamy texture. Voluptuous, complex.”

**Decanter**  
January 2016

## **100 BEST AUSTRALIAN WINES 2015/16**

**Matthew Jukes, MatthewJukes.com**  
2015

“Arguably Australia’s first collectible Chardonnay, and still one of its greatest. The Chardonnay space is certainly crowded, but not right at the very top of the quality register, where this wine lives.”

**Peter Gago, Food & Wine**  
May 2016