

2012 LEEUWIN ESTATE ART SERIES CABERNET SAUVIGNON

WINEMAKER:	Tim Lovett
REGION:	Margaret River, Western Australia
VARIETALS:	Cabernet Sauvignon
MATURATION:	21 months in 100% French oak barriques (40% new)
ANALYSIS:	13.5% alc/vol. TA: 6.88 g/L pH: 3.43

VINTAGE NOTES:

An exceptional vintage for Margaret River Cabernet Sauvignon. A typical mild winter with strong northwest frontal systems. Rainfall was about average, dams filled and overflowed. Pruning was completed in September. Cabernet budburst commenced in late August and flowering commenced in mid to late November with mostly fine and sunny days. Summer temperatures were above average but with very few hot days, the afternoon sea breeze always a welcome cooling influence. The weather was consistently fine, warm and sunny with little rain.

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.

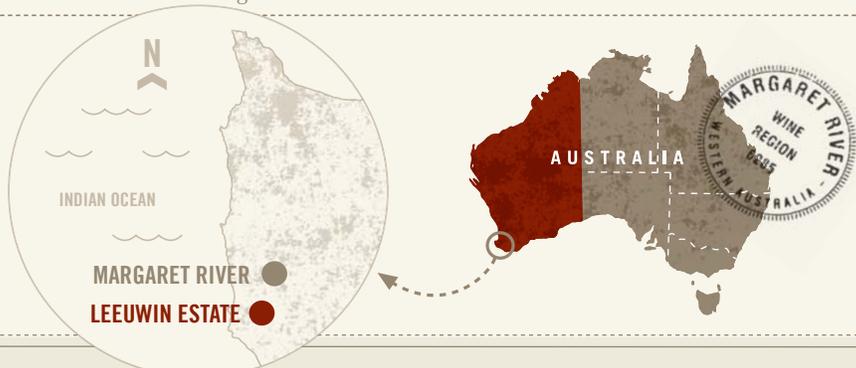
TASTING NOTES:

Vibrant and concentrated fruit aroma of abundant blackcurrant, dark cherries and mulberry. Beneath the lifted aromatics of anise, cocoa, clove, black olive and earthy wild field mushroom provide elegant layers to a highly expressive and complex nose. Structure and fruit weight work harmoniously on the palate, characterized by a dark fruit core of blackcurrant and forest fruits. Savory spice notes of dried sage, cassia bark, and tobacco gives subtle texture, and combine with diligent oak integration and a fine acid line. All components arrive to a finish featuring slightly chalky cocoa powder-like tannins.

CRITICAL ACCLAIM: 97 pts James Suckling, 92 pts Wine Enthusiast, 91+ pts Robert Parker’s 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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