



2015 PRELUDE VINEYARDS CHARDONNAY

WINEMAKER: Tim Lovett
REGION: Margaret River, Western Australia
VARIETALS: Chardonnay
MATURATION: 9 months in 100% French oak barriques (40% new)
ANALYSIS: 14.3% alc/vol | 6.84 g/L TA | 3.15 pH

VINTAGE NOTES:

Vines burst in late August into a slightly warmer and drier spring although the dams still filled and overflowed. November was cool with showers and cool southerly breezes. Early summer was cooler than average with little rain. The Sauvignon Blanc and Semillon harvest commenced early February through March. The nights were slightly warmer than average but there were no extremely hot days, the cooling sea breeze obvious every afternoon.

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 barrel the various components were blended, fined, cold stabilized and bottled.

TASTING NOTES:

The nose is bright and concentrated with subtle complexity, featuring lime, golden pear and white peach. Aromatic sweet spices of cinnamon and nutmeg with deeper tones of sesame, cashew and nougat provide depth and layers. Elevated jasmine floral notes enhance the purity and varietal expression. Definitely modern Leeuwin Estate Chardonnay; the palate exudes vibrancy with delicate textures. The intensity of pear, lime and lemon across the palate is threaded with a finite acid spine that is laced with spice and savory notes, leading to a seamless and elegant finish.

CRITICAL ACCLAIM:

92 pts/Editors' Choice Wine Enthusiast, 92 pts Wine Spectator, 91 pts The Wine Advocate

ABOUT LEEWIN 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.

