



2015 LEEUWIN ESTATE PRELUDE VINEYARDS CABERNET SAUVIGNON

WINEMAKER: Tim Lovett
REGION: Margaret River, Western Australia
VARIETALS: Cabernet Sauvignon (91%), Merlot (9%)
MATURATION: 20 months in French oak barriques
ANALYSIS: 13.5% alc/vol | TA: 6.55 g/L TA | pH: 3.33

VINTAGE NOTES:

Spring was warm and dry and November saw some cool showers and cool southerly breezes. The rest of summer was cooler than average with little rain. Throughout harvest the nights were slightly warmer than average but there were no extremely hot days, the cooling sea breeze obvious every afternoon. 2015 was one of the best all round vintages experienced, with resulting wine showing very good palate density and intense varietal lifts.

WINEMAKING:

After berry sorting and cold soaking, fermentation took place in closed and open fermenters and each individual lot was pumped over three times daily. Malolactic fermentation was completed in French Bordelaise coopered barriques. After nine months the separate parcels were blended and returned to oak for further maturation. Racking took place seasonally and the wine spent a total of 20 months in oak.

TASTING NOTES:

Lifted and elegant, the nose is a myriad of red cherries, currants, boysenberries and plums. Cumin, dried sage and star anise combine with subtle oak characters. The palate full of energy with bright and balanced acidity. Currants and red cherries are prominent throughout with hints of clove and mocha present on the mid palate. There is a mineral line towards the finish that meets gently structured talc-like tannins.

CRITICAL ACCLIAM: Not yet reviewed. 2014 vintage: 92 pts/*Cellar Selection Wine Enthusiast*, 92 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 in Margaret River. 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.

