

2018 LEEUWIN ESTATE

ART SERIES RIESLING



WINEMAKER: Tim Lovett
REGION: Margaret River, Western Australia
VARIETALS: Riesling
MATURATION: Stainless Steel
ANALYSIS: 12.0% alc/vol. | 8.54 g/L TA | 2.89 pH

VINTAGE: After a typically wet winter, flowering in all varieties was approximately ten days earlier than in vintage 2017. Spring was met by generally mild conditions, with the usual showery and sunny periods resulting in excellent set across most varieties. Summer was warm with very few hot days, and veraison occurred two weeks earlier than in 2017. 2018 was a spectacular year for flowering of the local Marri trees, which kept birds distracted from the ripening vineyards. Harvest commenced in the Riesling in the middle of February, followed by Chardonnay a week later and then Sauvignon Blanc in the first weeks of March. An excellent vintage across all varieties.

WINEMAKING: The grapes were harvested at night and immediately pressed. The juice was cold settled with enzymes for seven to ten days and then racked off gross lees. The juice was warmed and inoculated with pure yeast cultures and fermented in stainless steel tanks under controlled temperature conditions. After fermentation, the wine was fined, cold stabilized and bottled.

TASTING NOTES: Fragrant and energetic, the nose has an abundance of lychee, kiwifruit and blackcurrant with lime curd and lemon sherbet. Thai basil, sliced fennel, ginger and citrus blossom sit neatly in the background. A gentle entry leads to a delicately textured mid palate. Bursting lemon, lime and grapefruit dominate throughout with bright acidity, a slightly savory line and a talc-like finish.

CRITICAL ACCLAIM: 93 pts JamesSuckling.com

ABOUT LEEUWIN: 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.

