

2016 LEEUWIN ESTATE ART SERIES CHARDONNAY

Review Summary



99 pts/2021 BEST CHARDONNAY WINES “The perfumed perfection of the bouquet and the wonders of the palate, with its ever-shifting mosaic of white stone fruit, rock melon, grapefruit, Granny Smith apple and custard apple reign supreme. Oak? Yes, it's there, although subtle. Acidity? Yes, the giver of life now and into the future.”

James Halliday, Halliday Wine Companion
August 1, 2020

98 pts/TOP-RATED CHARDONNAY/JAMES HALLIDAY'S TOP 100 “Straw-green in color and powerful from the outset. Pure, juicy pear, white peach, sparks of spice, cedar wood and wood smoke. The flavors trigger each other, the finish then a powerful sling out and onwards. Its beauty is entirely worthy of admiration. Exactly where the power stops and the delicacy starts is difficult to tell, though it seems to happen at some point, even if the wine's insistence never lets up. The quality march of Leeuwin Art Series Chardonnay is relentless.”

Campbell Mattinson, Halliday Wine Companion
2020

96 pts/HIGHLY RECOMMENDED/TOP 100 WINES OF 2019 – #28 “Refined and elegant, this white is supple, yet intense and precise, with lemon curd, apricot, honeycomb and mandarin orange flavors, accented by floral and mineral details. The secret weapon here is the sleek acidity, which weaves in and out, giving the flavors definition and verve.”

MaryAnn Worobiec, Wine Spectator
December 31, 2019

94 pts “The 2016 Art Series Chardonnay is tight but rich, with guava and pineapple fruit reined in by lemony accents. Yes, there's oak, but it's in the background to the concentrated fruit in this silky-textured, medium to full-bodied effort. Based on the superb concentration, length and an admirable track record, it should age well through at least 2030.”

Joe Czerwinski, Robert Parker's The Wine Advocate
January 2020



94 pts – Excellent “This very pale white gold colored Chardonnay from Leeuwin opens with a very inviting mild butterscotch bouquet. On the palate, this wine is medium bodied, slightly acidic and mouthwatering. The flavor profile is a mineral and mild new oak influenced lemon with notes of Werther’s Original. I also detected hints of green apple. The finish is dry and its flavors are very nicely prolonged. This Chardonnay is very food friendly and would pair well with baked stuffed lobster.”

Ken Hoggins, KensWineGuide.com
January 2, 2020

94 pts “Love the aromas of coconut and pralines with cooked apple, lemon and pecan-pie undertones. Medium-to full-bodied, layered and complete with a juicy and savory aftertaste. Delicious all round.”

Nick Stock, JamesSuckling.com
June 26, 2019

93 pts “This vintage of Leeuwin’s most famous wine boasts the textural prowess and tightrope walk of approachability and ageability that put it on the map... A mélange of concentrated melon and pineapple fruit swirls with butterscotch toast and slightly nutty, salty seashell aromas and flavors.”

Christina Pickard, Wine Enthusiast
April 2020

93 pts “Art Series Chardonnay has a proven track record, proprietor Denis Horgan having long ago set his sights on a long-aging style. The key is old-vine fruit from a 1975 planting at the family’s Stevens Road estate. Tim Lovett gave the juice a little skin contact and let it settle for three days before fermenting it in new French oak barrels, where it later aged, with lees stirring, for 11 months. The warm vintage made for an expansive wine, even as the fruit retains fresh meadow-flower scents, zesty lemon notes and peachy clarity. The oak plays a prominent role, adding scents of caramel and rounding the creamy texture, while the fruit persists with elegance.”

Joshua Greene, Wine & Spirits Magazine
October 2019

“Leeuwin’s Art Series Chardonnay is an Australian classic, a reference point for stylish and expressive cool-climate Margaret River Chardonnays. This version takes advantage of the site’s proximity to the Indian Ocean, which brings a maritime influence to an otherwise Mediterranean climate. The resulting fresh fruit flavors, bright acidity and supple texture make this Chardonnay one of the most distinctive wines from Australia.”

MaryAnn Worobiec, Wine Spectator Insider
July 24, 2019