

2018 LEEUWIN ESTATE

SIBLINGS SHIRAZ



WINEMAKER: Tim Lovett
REGION: Margaret River, Western Australia
VARIETALS: Shiraz
MATURATION: 14 months in French oak barriques (30% new)
ANALYSIS: 13.5% alc/vol | 6.59 g/L TA | 3.44 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: All the fruit was fermented in open fermenters and were plunged and pumped over daily. Following completion of primary fermentation the wine was run to new, one and two year old barrels for malolactic fermentation. The wine underwent malolactic in barrels and after six months the various components were blended and aged in barrels for a further eight months. After assemblage the wine was fined and readied for bottling.

TASTING NOTES: Juicy and concentrated nose packed with plums, cherries and forest fruits. Black cardomom, star anise cedar, cinnamon and nutmeg add extra detail and complexity. Soft and supple entry on the palate with blueberries and raspberries at the forefront. Delicate weight through the middle with some savory notes on the finish.

CRITICAL ACCLAIM: 90 pts Wine Enthusiast, 90 pts Vinous, 90 pts JamesSuckling.com, 89 pts Wine Spectator, 89 pts Robert Parker Wine Advocate

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.

