

2019 LEEUWIN ESTATE

PRELUDE VINEYARDS CHARDONNAY



WINEMAKER: Tim Lovett
REGION: Margaret River, Western Australia
VARIETALS: Chardonnay
MATURATION: 10 months in 100% French oak barriques (40% new)
ANALYSIS: 13.5% alc/vol | 7.47 g/L TA | 3.23 pH

VINTAGE: 2019 was another great vintage in the Margaret River region. Winter was met with cold and wet conditions. Rainfall in June and July was lower than average, but significant rainfall in August filled dams on the Estate. The mild early spring conditions delayed flowering by approximately 10 days over much of the vineyard, before the weather improved significantly and warm blue sky days were once again common place. A significant 52mm of rain in late January set up the unirrigated vineyards for a perfect final ripening.

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

TASTING NOTES: Aromatic and expressive nose detailed through a line of pear, grilled lemon and grapefruit. Nougat, brioche, cinnamon, nutmeg, fennel seed, samphire, jalapeno and chamomile sit in the background, providing subtle complexity. Tightly coiled and woven palate delicately layered with a diligently textured mid palate. There is a salty-brine thread like throughout the palate. Concentrated white nectarine, pear and lemon are the key hallmark primary fruits, subtle toasted hazelnuts underpinned by a finite sherbet acid thread with a mineral acid line.

CRITICAL ACCLAIM: 94 pts Halliday Wine Companion, 92 pts Vinous, 92 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.

