

2020 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 | 7.41 g/L TA | 3.17 pH

VINTAGE: 2020 produced another fabulous vintage, very characteristic of the Margaret River region. Chardonnay was a stand-out varietal with beautiful natural acid and fruit weight. Winter of 2019 yielded typically wet and windy conditions. Chardonnay was the first grape variety to burst in the middle of August, pushed along by a prolonged period of sunny weather in late July. Summer was generally warm with few hot days experienced. Chardonnay harvests commenced early February and continued over a fortnight as different sites expressed the influences of their terroir on flavor and ripeness.

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: Bright, aromatic and varietal cut lime, pear and nectarine. Jasmine and frangipani notes give heightened subtleties to the fruit spectrum. Cashew, almond meal, popcorn, chamomile create a gorgeous centre to the nose. Vibrant and ethereal palate - great direction with shape and frame. Energetic and lively citrus fruits meets saline acidity. Gentle nuances of hazelnut, and sweet spice add a complementary layer and contour to the palate.

CRITICAL ACCLAIM: 92 pts Wine Enthusiast, 90 pts Wine Spectator

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.

