

2020 LEEUWIN ESTATE

PRELUDE VINEYARDS CABERNET SAUVIGNON



WINEMAKER: Tim Lovett
REGION: Margaret River, Western Australia
VARIETALS: Cabernet Sauvignon (99%), Malbec (1%)
MATURATION: 20 months in French oak barriques (33% new)
ANALYSIS: 13.5% alc/vol | 6.85 g/L TA | 3.38 pH

VINTAGE: Overall winter rainfall was lower than average, and budburst was noted in the Cabernet through late August and September. Summer was generally warm with few hot days; veraison occurred earlier than usual. Mild, temperate days and cool nights allowed the reds to develop beautiful tannin, flavor and sugar ripeness. Harvest of the Cabernet Sauvignon and Shiraz began in mid-March and the last Estate fruit was picked on April 4.

WINEMAKING: After berry sorting and cold soaking, fermentation took place in closed and open fermenters and each individual lot was pumped over up to three times daily. Malolactic fermentation was completed in French Bordelaise coopered barriques. After nine months the separate parcels were blended and returned to oak for further maturation. Racking took place seasonally and the wine spent a total of 20 months in oak.

TASTING NOTES: The nose is defined by vibrancy, fragrance and perfume underlined with violets and lavender. The palate is voluminous with a deep and intense core of rich fruit, surrounded by blackcurrants and blueberries. Cassia, bay leaf, dried sage, star anise and cumin offer complexity and layers of delicate, subtle textures. It all unfolds following a mineral and graphite thread. Tannins are fine, long and elongated with a tight and vibrant acid frame.

CRITICAL ACCLAIM: 95 pts Halliday Wine Companion, 93 pts Robert Parker Wine Advocate, 93 pts JamesSuckling.com, 91 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.

