

2020 LEEUWIN ESTATE ART SERIES CHARDONNAY



LEEWIN ESTATE



WINEMAKER: Tim Lovett
REGION: Margaret River, Western Australia
VARIETALS: Chardonnay
MATURATION: 11 months in 100% new French oak barriques
ANALYSIS: 13.5% alc/vol | 7.26 g/L TA | 3.10 pH

VINTAGE: Here is another outstanding, characteristic Margaret River vintage. Chardonnay was a stand-out, with remarkable natural acid and fruit weight. Winter of 2019 filled dams on the Estate; then in mid-August, Chardonnay was the first varietal to burst, encouraged by a prolonged period of sunny weather. Veraison on Chardonnay was late in the final week of December; Chardonnay harvest commenced in early February and continued over a fortnight, as different sites expressed the influences of their terroir on flavor and ripeness.

WINEMAKING: Cool, destemmed fruit was held on skins then combined with components of whole-bunch pressed parcels. The juice was settled for 12-36 hours, racked, and inoculated with yeast. The juice (100%) was barrel fermented in new French oak barriques, and the lees stirred regularly. After 11 months in barrels, the various components were blended, fined, cold stabilized and bottled.

TASTING NOTES: Power and presence delight, then energy and vitality are the thread throughout the aromas lifting from the glass. Lemon curd, fresh nashi pear and citrus blossom create the shape and frame aromatically, with layered undercurrents of vanilla bean, patisserie, tea leaf, and flint nuances. The palate is precise, focused and fine with delicately woven texture. Juicy white peach combines with pear at the core. Harmony, elegance and vibrancy sew all elements together, with a saline and mineral finish that is the hallmark of this classic 2020 vintage.

CRITICAL ACCLAIM: 98 pts Robert Parker Wine Advocate, 97 pts Halliday Wine Companion, Top 100 Australian Wines of 2023 & 97 pts JamesSuckling.com, 95 pts Wine Enthusiast, 95 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.

