

2021 LEEUWIN ESTATE ART SERIES CHARDONNAY



WINEMAKER: Tim Lovett
REGION: Margaret River, Western Australia
VARIETALS: Chardonnay
MATURATION: 11 months in 100% new French oak barriques
ANALYSIS: 13.5% alc/vol | 7.39g/L TA | 3.18 pH

VINTAGE: 2021's mild summer produced wines showcasing excellent varietal definition with incredible length and clarity. Chardonnay is a stand out variety with fabulous natural acid and fruit weight. The winter was typically wet and windy with close to average rainfall. Chardonnay was the first variety to burst in the last week of August. Chardonnay veraison commenced in the first week of January. Chardonnay hand and machine picks commenced on February 25 and continued over the next two weeks 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: Elevated, fragrant and perfumed, the nose is defined by chamomile, lemon myrtle, cherry blossom and ginger. A core and concentrated fruit spectrum of pear, lemon flesh and white nectarine provide the foundation. There is a graphite, flint, and chalk thread, combining with nutmeg and almond meal. Energetic and well poised, an array of fresh lime and nashi pear is laced throughout. The palate is ethereal, mineral and defined with a natural acidity. There is an enticing element of saline and wet stone on the focused, effortless length.

CRITICAL ACCLAIM: 98 pts Vinous, 98 pts The Real Review, 97 pts James Suckling, 97 pts Robert Parker Wine Advocate, 95 pts/Cellar Selection Wine Enthusiast

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.

