



2002 LEEUWIN ESTATE ART SERIES CABERNET SAUVIGNON

WINEMAKER:	Paul Atwood
REGION:	Margaret River, Western Australia
VARIETALS:	Cabernet Sauvignon (77%), Petit Verdot (14%), Malbec (9%)
MATURATION:	French barriques
ALCOHOL:	13.5% alc/vol.

VINTAGE NOTES:

Winter 2001 was very dry with mild balmy days. Early spring rain was followed by a dry and cool summer resulting in an excellent 2002 season with an extended ripening period. The cabernet fruit was harvested slightly later than usual, in order to ensure tannin development and ripe, weighty fruit flavors.

BACKGROUND:

A Margaret River powerhouse, the Art Series Cabernet Sauvignon is made in a style to be long lived due to its ample fruit and sturdy frame. Often described as "Bordeaux like," the core of the fruit comes from 25-year-old vines grown in well-draining gravel/granite derived soils. The Art Series represents Leeuwin Estate's most opulent and age-worthy wines. They are identified with paintings commissioned from leading contemporary Australian artists.

TASTING NOTES:

The 2002 Art Series Cabernet Sauvignon is medium red in color with violet tints. This classic Cabernet Sauvignon is complex and well integrated, expressing lovely fruit flavors of black berries, cassis, plums, and chocolate. The palate shows sweet, rich blackcurrant and blackberry flavors complemented by the use of French oak. Spice, dried flowers and tobacco-like qualities are heightened by fine tannins and a generous finish. This release will gain additional complexity with extended time in the bottle.

CRITICAL ACCLAIM: 2002 vintage- 94 pts- Stephen Tanzer's International Wine Cellar, 92 pts- Wine Enthusiast, 2001 vintage- 91+ pts- Robert Parker's The Wine Advocate

ABOUT LEEUWIN ESTATE:

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.



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Review Summary



94 pts “Saturated ruby color. Flat-out gorgeous aromas of bitter cherry, cassis, graphite, cedar, Cuban tobacco, dark chocolate and dried flowers. On the palate, juicy dark and red fruit flavors play off musky, almost decadent underbrush and tobacco, with precise but understated Asian spice notes adding even more complexity. This boasts remarkable balance and compelling intricacy of fruit, spice and earth qualities on the long, suave finish, picking up notes of violet and fresh rose on the back. For the money, this is a no-brainer in outstanding, ageworthy cabernet.”

Stephen Tanzer’s International Wine Cellar
Jul/Aug 2006

92 pts “Perhaps better known for its Chardonnay, Leeuwin also makes an Art Series Cabernet than takes a back seat to no one. The 2002 boasts youthful scents of fresh mint and cassis, then slowly unfolds on the palate to reveal a rich, full-bodied wine with a distinctly ripe, creamy texture. Long and powerful on the finish, with 10 or so years ahead of it.”

Wine Enthusiast
February 2008