



2004 LEEUWIN ESTATE SIBLINGS SHIRAZ

WINEMAKER: Paul Atwood
REGION: Margaret River, Western Australia
VARIETALS: Shiraz
MATURATION: 8 months in new and older barriques
ALCOHOL: 14% alc/vol.

VINTAGE NOTES:

Winter 2003 was colder and wetter than the previous 3 years. Several frosts allowed the vines to become dormant, resulting in pruning with minimal sap flow. Both budburst and flowering were about a week later than normal. The season comprised a long warm summer with a low incidence of rain during harvest.

VINIFICATION:

All of the fruit was fermented in open fermenters with 15% being whole bunches to extend the fermentation time. Open fermenters were plunged and pumped over daily and the wine run to new, one, and two year old barrels for malolactic fermentation. This wine underwent malolactic in barrels and after six months the various components were blended and aged in barrels for a further eight months. After assemblage, the wine was fined and readied for bottling.

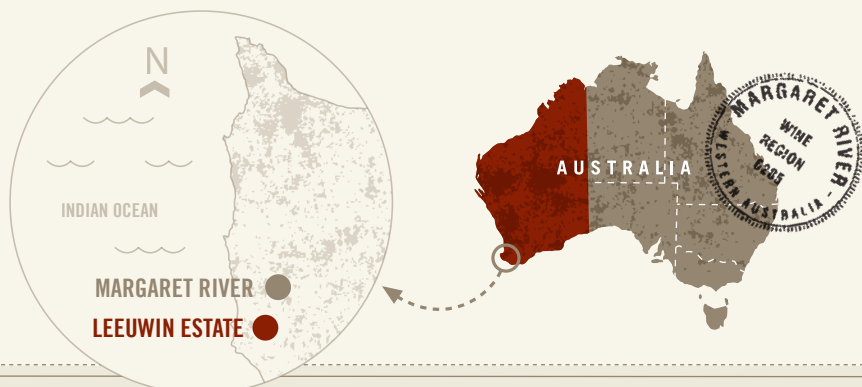
TASTING NOTES:

The 2004 Sibling Shiraz is a brilliant deep ruby red color. The wine is strongly fruit driven with lifted, ripe mulberry, blackberry, and blood red plums balanced by vanilla, white pepper and spice. The palate is of full to medium weight with a great intensity of sweet black cherry, blackberry, and plums; this intensity carries through to a long and focused finish with fine grain tannins framing the generous soft fruit.

CRITICAL ACCLAIM: 89 pts- Stephen Tanzer's International Wine Cellar, 89 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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