



## 2007 LEEUWIN ESTATE PRELUDE VINEYARDS CHARDONNAY

**WINEMAKER:** Paul Atwood  
**REGION:** Margaret River, Western Australia  
**VARIETALS:** Chardonnay  
**MATURATION:** 9 months, 100% French oak  
**ALCOHOL:** 14.5% alc/vol

### VINTAGE NOTES:

A cold, wet and windy spring during the 2006 season saw burburst and flowering occur 2-3 weeks later than usual at Leeuwin Estate. Further cool weather during the ripening period resulted in the latest harvest on record at Leeuwin Estate. These conditions were optimal for the aromatic white varieties such as Chardonnay; when combined with the low yields produced wines of great intensity and finesse.

### WINEMAKING:

The Chardonnay fruit was cool crushed with some skin contact, then cold settled for 3-days prior to inoculation with yeast. 100% of the juice was barrel fermented in French oak barriques with the lees stirred regularly. After 9 months in barrel, the components were blended, fined, cold stabilized and bottled.

### TASTING NOTES:

This wine displays lifted pristine Margaret River Chardonnay fruit typical of the Leeuwin vineyard. The well integrated bouquet has ripe pear skin, figs, and nutty cashews. The subtle integration of French oak provides vanilla notes to this perfumed Chardonnay. Medium in weight, due to the cool ripening period, the wine displays deceptive length and mouth filling structure. The palate shows fresh and vibrant pears, tangy grapefruit and peaches, with balanced acid giving the wine a delicious elegance and youthfulness.

### CRITICAL ACCLAIM:

90pts Stephen Tanzer, 90pts Robert Parker, 88pts Wine Spectator

### 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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