



2007 LEEUWIN ESTATE PRELUDE VINEYARDS CHARDONNAY

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

VINTAGE NOTES:

A remarkable but relatively early vintage. Harvest took place during some of the hottest March days ever recorded. While Perth sweltered at 107°F, Margaret River – betwixt two oceans – recorded 99°F. The overall flavor development and acidities pointed to a great year.

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:

The nose has characteristic Leeuwin Estate Chardonnay aromas and intensity, showing ripe pears, cashew nuts, creme brulee and hints of toasty French oak. The palate displays the typical sweet fruit from Leeuwin's low cropping vineyards of dried pear, toasty creamy custard tart and nuances of almond and cashew, with lingering stone fruit and a fresh clean acid finish.

CRITICAL ACCLAIM:

92 pts Wine & Spirits Magazine, 90 pts Robert Parker's The Wine Advocate, 90 pts Stephen Tanzer's International Wine Cellar, 90 pts Wine Spectator, 89 pts Wine Enthusiast

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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