



2008 CULLEN WINES DIANA MADELINE CABERNET MERLOT

Review Summary



96 pts “This blend of Cabernet Sauvignon/Merlot was picked at precisely the point Vanya Cullen decided the grapes - and in particular the tannins - had reached optimum ripeness; a sophisticated mistral blower on a sorting table removing leaf fragments and infertile berries, and a return to a basket press, have all combined to produce an extremely refined and elegant wine that is quite different to some of the earlier Cullen Cabernet Merlots. It shines with its length, finish and aftertaste.”

James Halliday
Australian Wine Companion
2012

93 pts “Bright ruby-red. Spicy red berries, cherry, black tea, mint and floral aromas show impressive clarity and gain power with air. Firm, juicy and pure, offering zesty cherry and rhubarb flavors and a deeper note of cassis on the back half. The finish repeats the cherry and floral notes and lingers with impressive tenacity and sweetness. This one is built to age for at least another decade.”

Josh Raynolds
Stephen Tanzer’s International Wine Cellar
July/August 2010

91 pts “2008 Diana Madeline is another example of Cullen’s emerging ability to achieve physiological ripeness at lower alcohols – this wine weighs-in at just 12.5%. Trust me, I was looking for signs of greenness and astringency, but they just weren’t there. Composed of 86% Cabernet Sauvignon and 14% Merlot, it was matured 14 months in French barriques, 48% new. Deep garnet-purple colored, this wine reveals wonderfully expressive Cabernet aromas of warm cassis, mocha, smoked duck, anise, cardamom, cinnamon stick and freshly tilled loam. Crisp, medium bodied, intense and tight-knit, this is a relatively soft textured vintage with just above a medium level of very fine tannins. The finish is satisfyingly long. Drink it 2012 to 2020+.”

Lisa Perrotti-Brown
Robert Parker’s The Wine Advocate
October 2010