

## 2010 CULLEN WINES DIANA MADELINE CABERNET MERLOT

### Review Summary



**98 pts** “The combination of terroir, early picking, biodynamics, aged vines and sympathetic winemaking makes such a strong statement. Slightly more robust than recent vintages and as such may prove an even greater crowd pleaser. It is a stunning blend of all five Bordeaux varieties. Silky, effortless and graceful. Will cellar for decades.”

**Ray Jordan, West Weekend**  
May 2012

**96 pts** “A 77/10/6/4/3% blend of cabernet sauvignon, merlot, petit verdot, malbec and cabernet franc. Confident with the quality of her biodynamically-grown estate grapes, Vanya Cullen is taking a gently approach with all aspects of the wine. Thus it is medium-bodied at best, but is perfectly balanced and its array of blackcurrant, redcurrant, earth and spice fruit flavors are clearly varietal. Above all else, it is certain the wine will develop beautifully over the next 20-30 years.”

**James Halliday**  
Australian Wine Companion 2013

**96 pts** “Delicate, sophisticated and precise. Optimum fruit from another great Margaret River vintage ensures this famed blend will live large and strong. Refined, long, elegant palate.”

**David Prestipino, Sunday Times Magazine (WA)**  
May 2012

**95 pts** “Elegant blueberry, mulberry, minerally fruit of great intensity and length. Finesse and remarkable freshness. Medium-bodied, proving that a great wine doesn't have to be in-your-face.”

**Ch'ng Poh Tiong, Decanter Magazine**  
September 2013



**94 pts** “Composed of 77% Cabernet Sauvignon, 10% Merlot, 6% Petit Verdot, 4% Malbec and 3% Cabernet Franc, the 2010 Diana Madeline was aged for an average of 19 months in French barriques, 51% new. Deep garnet-purple colored, it offers an intense perfume of crushed black currants, blackberry preserves and mulberries with underlying clove, cedar, yeast extract, black olive and damp loam hints. The modest light to medium-bodied palate really packs the flavor into an elegant package with layer upon layer of youthful blackberry and spice flavors supported by a firm level of finely grained tannins and crisp acidity, finishing long. It should drink best 2015 to 2028+.”

**Lisa Perotti-Brown, eRobertParker.com #202  
August, 2012**

**93 pts** “Dark ruby. Redcurrant, cherry and pipe tobacco on the highly perfumed nose, with a touch of allspice. Aeration brings up darker fruits and a hint of candied violet. Shows very good concentration and focus, with no excess fat and excellent finishing clarity.”

**Josh Reynolds, Stephen Tanzer’s International Wine Cellar  
July/August 2012**

**93 pts**

**Wine Spectator Insider  
July 5, 2012**

**93 pts** “Firm, boasting chewy tannins that clamp onto a gorgeous thread of currant, boysenberry, tobacco and black pepper flavors, which manage to float free on the long, expressive finish. Needs cellaring. Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot, Petit Verdot, Malbec and Cabernet Franc. Best from 2017 through 2025.”

**Harvey Steiman, Wine Spectator Insider  
March 13, 2011**

**5 out of 5** “From a great vintage in Margaret River, this elegant cabernet sauvignon-dominant blend (77 per cent) includes merlot, petit verdot, malbec and cabernet franc. Pretty, complex aromas include blackcurrant, violet, rose petals and plum. The wine is just a joy to drink, with fine-grained tannins carrying medium-bodied flavors of red berries, blood plum and some ironstone minerality all around the mouth. A great option for the cellar – this will age beautifully – decant it for a few hours if you decide to drink it now.”

**Ben Thomas, The Weekly Review  
May 2012**