

## 2011 CULLEN WINES DIANA MADELINE CABERNET MERLOT

### Review Summary



**97 pts – Best of Cabernet & Family 2015** “The bouquet is perfumed and very attractive, but doesn't prepare you for the sheer intensity of the quite beautiful palate, with gloriously juicy redcurrant and cassis cradled by fine tannins and integrated oak.”

**James Halliday**  
Australian Wine Companion  
2015

**95 pts** “Attractive bright lighter red fruits on offer with almost strawberry-like aromas and vanillin; pretty and alluring. The palate has quite supple, sweet tannins and good mid-palate presence. Balanced and even, finishes fresh.”

**Nick Stock**  
JamesSuckling.com  
January 29, 2015

**94 pts** “Inky ruby. Spice- and smoke-accented red fruits, vanilla and rose on the highly perfumed nose. Juicy, focused and lithe, offering deeply concentrated but tangy redcurrant, bitter cherry and mocha flavors and a smoky note of black tea. A silky sweet and strikingly persistent finish features vanilla and bitter cherry pit.”

**Josh Raynolds**  
Stephen Tanzer's International Wine Cellar  
July/August 2013

**93+ pts** “A blend of 80% Cabernet Sauvignon, 12% Merlot, 4% Malbec, 3% Cabernet Franc and 1% Petit Verdot and aged 19 months in 48% new French oak barrels, the 2011 Diana Madeline is a medium to deep garnet-purple color and shows slightly muted notes of freshly crushed black currants, blackberries and red currants with hints of forest floor, cedar, bacon and lavender. Medium-bodied and tightly-wound on a very youthful palate, it is framed by medium to firm levels of grainy tannins and lively acid that supports the muscular fruit flesh. It finishes with great persistence.”

**Lisa Perrotti-Brown**  
Robert Parker's The Wine Advocate  
August 2013



**92 pts** “Focused, sleek and expressive, with a sense of reticence to the black cherry and savory spice flavors, offering hints of pepper and tea leaf as the finish lingers enticingly. Shows depth and distinction, but speaks quietly.”

**Harvey Steiman**  
**Wine Spectator**  
**March 2014**

**90 pts – Cellar Selection** “Crisp and compact, the 2011 Diana Madeline undoubtedly needs at least another couple of years in the cellar. The nose is leafy and herbal, but the flavors show cherry fruit framed by subtle shadings of vanilla. The tannins are firm, imparting a drying sensation to the long finish.”

**Joe Czerwinski**  
**Wine Enthusiast**  
**March 2015**

**100 Best Australian Wines 2014/15** “2011 Diana Madeline is another phenomenal creation. It is one of the most backward vintages in the recent run of sublime wines and having just spent a long time putting together a huge 2013 Bordeaux Report En Primeur I can tell you that this wine would, in quality terms alone, be on a par with the top two or three wines of that vintage (I know it’s a 2011!). This means that Cullen et al. is already making wines, to my mind, which genuinely rival the greatest on the planet. They may not have the longevity yet, but this will come. In the meantime, I would urge you to buy this wine and other top Aussie Cabernets now – the tide is turning and the spotlight is tracking across the heavens towards Australia.”

**Matthew Jukes**  
**MatthewJukes.com**  
**June 2014**