



2013 CULLEN WINES DIANA MADELINE CABERNET MERLOT

Review Summary



98 pts/James Halliday's Top 100 Wines of 2015 "A bright crimson 73/20/7% blend of cabernet, merlot and franc, aged for an average of 17 months in French barriques (60% new). There is no doubt this is Cullen's greatest wine, and one of Australia's greatest cabernet blends, the only real competition coming from other Margaret River blends. The bouquet is perfumed, the palate fluid and graceful, notwithstanding the intensity of its cassis et al fruits which give the wine its awesome length, fine tannins its balance."

**James Halliday, Australian Wine Companion
2016**

95 pts "Pretty, floral and fragrant; very bright and perfumed cabernet wine. There is little oak, fine red berry fruits on offer and a sappy, distinctly herbal and leafy note too, plus gravel and earth. The palate is superfine, bright and finely tannined. Crunchy, bright and lighter, but has power though."

**Nick Stock, JamesSuckling.com
February 2, 2016**

94+ pts "Made from 73% Cabernet Sauvignon, 20% Merlot and 7% Cabernet Franc, the 2013 Diana Madeline is deep garnet-purple and shows meaty, Bovril and beef drippings notes on the nose, over core of ripe blackcurrant, plus toast, dried herb and red fruit inflections. Muscular, very tight and concentrated, this wine is medium-bodied, very fine and possessing ripe tannins. It has a long mineral finish."

**Lisa Perrotti-Brown, Robert Parker's The Wine Advocate
March 2016**

94 pts "Bright purple. Primary, very ripe scents of black and blue fruits, dark chocolate and pipe tobacco, with floral and mineral nuances adding complexity. Smooth, weighty and alluringly sweet, with its intense cassis and singed plum flavors sharpened and given a spicy edge by a suggestion of cracked pepper. Sweet vanilla and mocha qualities build on the impressively long, gently tannic finish of this lush, seamless blend."

**Josh Reynolds, Vinous
March 2016**



93 pts/Cellar Selection “This is a wonderful counterpoint to Vasse Felix’s Heytesbury. Where that wine is lush, this is more austere, with restrained, Bordeaux-reminiscent sensibilities. Smoky, grilled elements frame cassis and mint, finishing with classic firm tannins and admirable length. Drink 2023–2035, although the back label suggests ‘up to a further 30 years.’”

Joe Czerwinski, Wine Enthusiast
October 2016

92 pts “A graceful cabernet, this manages high-toned red fruit ripeness with a lovely gentleness of tannins. It feels complete, a rich blend of cabernet sauvignon (73 percent), merlot (20 percent), and cabernet franc (7 percent), balanced for filet mignon. The cabernet and merlot vines for this wine were planted from 1967 to 1973.”

Joshua Greene, Wine & Spirits Magazine
February 2016

91 pts “Complex and detailed, opening with peppery dried rose petal aromatics, with dried rosemary, cherry and plum flavors that are nuanced and harmonious on the long, plush finish.”

MaryAnn Worobiec, Wine Spectator
May 2016

18/20 pts “Very fresh and spicy nose. Sweet start and lovely texture. Not a step wrong. Amazing to be able to enjoy it now. It’s what you want Margaux to be. Dry finish and very neat and confident. The opposite of brash.”

Jancis Robinson, JancisRobinson.com
October 8, 2015