

CULLEN



MARGARET RIVER



2015 CULLEN 'KEVIN JOHN' CHARDONNAY

WINEMAKER: Vanya Cullen
REGION: Margaret River, Western Australia
VARIETALS: Chardonnay
MATURATION: 5 months in French oak barriques (73% new)
ALCOHOL: 13.0% alc./vol

TRIBUTE TO A MARGARET RIVER PIONEER:

Kevin Cullen was a passionate believer in Margaret River's potential to become one of the world's great regions for Chardonnay. He created the Cullen International Wine Tasting, now in its twenty fifth year, to provide a vehicle by which Margaret River's Chardonnays could be benchmarked against the great Chardonnays of the world. In order to recognize the contribution Kevin made in elevating Cullen's Chardonnay to the iconic status it holds today, Vanya named the Cullen Chardonnay after him from the 2006 vintage onwards.

WINEMAKING:

Very low yields with no rain in January, February and until the end of harvest in March. One big difference was the Marri blossom which did not flower until after the harvest causing bird pressure. This is a wine of great purity and refined elegance. The Chardonnay grapes were hand harvested on fruit and flower days from 39 year old vines. They were then whole bunch pressed and fermented with wild yeast in barriques. It underwent natural malolactic fermentation prior to receiving five months of oak maturation

TASTING NOTES:

Perfumed with citrus, pear and stone fruit aromas which are enhanced by the barrel ageing. The palate is multi-layered and complex, combining Bosc pear, nectarines and citrus notes and is wonderfully balanced by the savory acidity. The wine can be cellared with confidence for at least 10 years.

CRITICAL ACCLAIM:

93 pts JamesSuckling.com

ABOUT CULLEN: A founding winery of Margaret River, Cullen was established in 1971 by pioneering winemakers Kevin and Diana Cullen. In redefining the style of Australian Cabernet Sauvignon produced in the 1970s, the fledgling estate caught the attention of the nation. Since then, an unrelenting commitment to quality and site expression has positioned Cullen as one of Australia's greatest estates - and Margaret River as one of the nation's premier wine-producing regions. The mature, biodynamically-farmed vineyards produce elegant, age-worthy wines that draw worldwide critical acclaim, including what is regarded by many as the country's definitive Bordeaux blend.



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