

# 2017 CULLEN

## KEVIN JOHN CHARDONNAY



**WINEMAKER:** Vanya Cullen  
**REGION:** Margaret River, Western Australia  
**VARIETALS:** Chardonnay  
**MATURATION:** 5 months in French oak barriques (30% new)  
**ALCOHOL:** 13.5% alc/vol

**A 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 sixth 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:** After being harvested by hand on fruit and flower days, the whole bunches were pressed into barriques and fermented with wild yeast. The wines underwent natural malolactic fermentation and matured for 5 months in French oak, 30% of which were new. Biodynamic and carbon negative.

**TASTING NOTES:** A perfumed nose with notes of pears, white flowers and citrus which are lifted by the barrel ageing. The palate is very fine and already complex, combining Anjou pear, white nectarine and some almond notes. The vibrant fruit flavors are wonderfully balanced by the natural acid structure. The wine can be cellared with confidence for at least 10 years.

**CRITICAL ACCLAIM:** 97 pts JamesSuckling.com, 97 pts Halliday Wine Companion, 95 pts/Cellar Selection Wine Enthusiast

**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.

