

CULLEN



MARGARET RIVER



UPC : 9320859200576

## 2012 CULLEN 'KEVIN JOHN' CHARDONNAY

**WINEMAKER :** Vanya Cullen  
**REGION :** Margaret River, Western Australia  
**VARIETALS :** Chardonnay  
**MATURATION :** 5 months in French barriques (33% new, 65% one year old)  
**ALCOHOL :** 13.0% alc./vol | TA 7.15 g/l | 3.12 pH

### 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 fourth 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 :

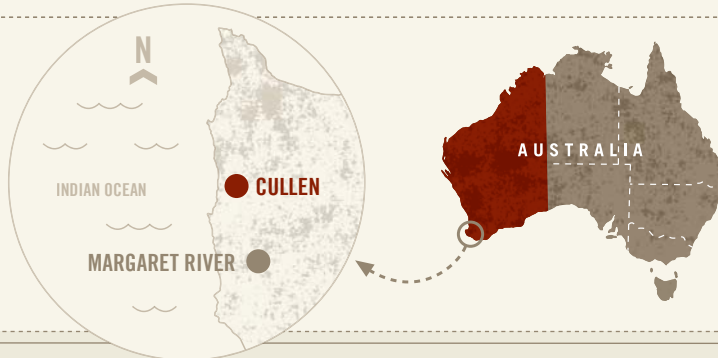
Overall vintage conditions were excellent and contributed to the production of white wines of great flavor and elegance. The whole bunches were pressed in small basket presses and spontaneously fermented in French barriques, one third of which were new. The wine underwent partial malolactic fermentation prior to aging for a further five months in barrel.

### TASTING NOTES :

Intense and complex, combining attractive citrus, almond, pear and green apple aromas against a background of subtle vanillin oak. The palate is rich, crisp, bright and focused, with the fresh citrus, honeysuckle and almond flavors complimented by the good acidity. A wine of great purity precision, length and persistence.

**CRITICAL ACCLAIM :** 96+ pts The Wine Advocate, 94 pts/EDITOR'S CHOICE Wine Enthusiast, 94 pts International Wine Cellar, 94 pts Wine Spectator

**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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