



Vanya Cullen



CULLEN WINES

Margaret River, Western Australia

“Cullen makes exceptionally complex wines that rely on gentle persuasion, not brute force.”
James Halliday’s Australian Wine Companion 2014

- OWNER:** The Cullen Family
- FOUNDED:** 1971 by Kevin & Diana Cullen
- WINEMAKER:** Vanya Cullen
- SIZE:** 69 acres
- HARVEST:** End February to late April
- CLIMATE:** Mediterranean
- ANNUAL RAINFALL:** 45 inches
- VINEYARD:** Biodynamically farmed and dry-grown
- SOILS:** Granite and gravelly sandy loam over lateritic subsoils
- VARIETIES PLANTED:** **Cullen Vineyards:** Cabernet Sauvignon (28.0 acres), Chardonnay (18.4 acres), Sauvignon Blanc (13.6 acres), Merlot (3.2 acres), Semillon (2.8 acres), Pinot Noir (2.3 acres), Cabernet Franc (1.0 acres). **Mangan Vineyard:** Petit Verdot (13.4 acres), Sauvignon Blanc (11.9 acres), Semillon (9.8 acres), Merlot (7.6 acres), Malbec (6.2 acres).

WEBSITE: www.cullenwines.com.au



The Cullen vineyard, situated just two miles from the Indian Ocean



PROFILE: 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, integrity and sustainability 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 vineyard produces elegant, age-worthy wines that draw world-wide critical acclaim, including what is regarded by many as the country’s definitive Bordeaux blend.

VITICULTURE: The Cullen vineyard is one of Margaret River’s greatest viticultural sites. Carefully selected by founders Kevin and Diana Cullen, the well-draining, gravelly soils are complemented by a maritime climate of warm, sun-filled days tempered by the surrounding Indian and Southern oceans. The mature, low-yielding vineyard is dry-grown, hand-tended and trellised according to variety. In addition, since taking the reins in 1989, Vanya Cullen has steered the estate through biodynamic certification, with the aim of optimizing soil health and achieving a pure expression of site. This union of outstanding natural attributes and constant evolution provides Cullen with a rare platform from which to craft benchmark quality, terroir driven wines.



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THE WINES

The Cullen wines represent the pinnacle of Margaret River's premium offering. From the estate's oldest vines, the top tier consistently ranks among Australia's greatest wines. The Margaret River range, likewise, bears the Cullen stamp of quality and finesse.



FLAGSHIP WINES

Diana Madeline: A tribute to iconic pioneer and founder Diana Madeline Cullen, this blend of Bordeaux varieties displays the concentration and finesse Margaret River is renowned for. Widely regarded as Australia's definitive Bordeaux blend.

Chardonnay: An elegant, restrained example of Chardonnay, delicately crafted for longevity with impressive structure, layered texture and wonderful depth. Rated among the nation's greatest Chardonnays.

Mangan: An evocative blend of Malbec, Petit Verdot and Merlot from the Cullens' Mangan vineyard, this brooding wine is an eclectic addition to the Cullen range.

Ephraim Clarke: A tribute to Kevin Cullen's grandfather, Ephraim Mayo Clarke. Ephraim was the first of the Cullens to show an affinity with the vine, having planted vines in 1881 in Western Australia's South West. This fresh, vibrant blend of Sauvignon Blanc and Semillon, complexed by barrel fermentation, is a regional speciality.

MARGARET RIVER WINES

Margaret River Red: Cabernet Sauvignon and Merlot, with Petit Verdot and Malbec for color and perfume. This fruit-forward wine captures the essence of Margaret River with its fresh, vibrant personality.

Margaret River White: A vivacious blend of Sauvignon Blanc and Semillon, with a touch of Chardonnay. Cool, stainless steel ferment retains the primary fruit characters for a fresh, bright finish.

WINEMAKING: The foundation of the Cullen winemaking philosophy is to achieve optimum site expression with minimal intervention. Having inherited a vineyard that yields some of the Margaret River region's most distinctive fruit, Vanya Cullen all but lets the wines make themselves. The team painstakingly hand-sorts all fruit, makes use of indigenous yeasts, avoids all winemaking additions, uses French oak judiciously and minimizes fining and filtering prior to bottling. In this way, the Cullens are working with nature rather than attempting to control it, therein allowing the wines to be defined by a sense of place rather than winemaking techniques.



Cullen's small, biodynamically certified winery



Vanya Cullen and Cullen founder, Diana Cullen



Hand tending the dry-grown vineyard