

2016 CULLEN

DIANA MADELINE CABERNET SAUVIGNON



WINEMAKER: Vanya Cullen
REGION: Margaret River, Western Australia
VARIETALS: Cabernet Sauvignon (93%), Merlot (5%), Malbec (1%)
Petit Verdot (1%)
MATURATION: 14 months in 100% French oak (67% new)
ALCOHOL: 12.5% alc/vol

A TRIBUTE TO A MARGARET RIVER PIONEER: Diana Madeline Cullen will be remembered as one of the Australian wine industry's most remarkable women. Responsible for crafting the Cullen wines from 1981, Di handed the reins to her daughter, Vanya, in 1989, who was also awarded Australian Wine magazine's highly-esteemed "Australian Winemaker of the Year" award in 2000.

WINEMAKING: After three vintages of tiny yields 2016 delivered a wine of elegance, brilliant color and purity of fruit. The primary fermentation took an average 12 days. Skin contact time averaged 22 days. The wine was then matured in French oak for 14 months with 67% being new barrels. All Cullen wines are certified biodynamic with no additions.

TASTING NOTES: The nose shows fantastic complexity and vitality with layers of dark fruits enhanced by gorgeous, leafy nuances. The palate is elegant and silky and delivers layers of dark fruits with underlying dark chocolate and notes. There is a lovely touch of spice melting into the fruit. A wine to watch as it unfolds and develops over the next twenty to thirty years.

CRITICAL ACCLAIM: 98 pts Halliday Wine Companion, 93 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.

