



Cullen,

`Diana Madeline` Wilyabrup Cabernet Sauvignon/Merlot 2020

Margaret River, Western Australia, Australia



PRODUCER

Cullen is one of the oldest and most awarded family wineries in Western Australia's famous Margaret River region. Certified biodynamic, carbon neutral and naturally powered, their philosophy is best summed up in three simple words: 'Quality, Integrity and Sustainability'. First established in Wilyabrup in 1971 by Dr Kevin and Diana Cullen and now run by their daughter Vanya, the winery has built an outstanding reputation for fine, certified biodynamic wines that receive critical acclaim both in Australia and internationally. In 2019, celebrating 30 years at the helm, Vanya received double Winemaker of the Year honours at both the Australian Women in Wine Awards and the Halliday Wine Companion Awards. In 2023, Vanya was awarded the Order of Australia (OAM) for her services to viticulture and wine. Her unwavering dedication to biodynamic viticulture has inspired many like-minded winemakers across the world.

VINEYARDS

Located in Wilyabrup, 20 kilometres north of Margaret River township, the soils at the Cullen vineyard are old granite and gravelly, sandy loam, overlaying lateric subsoils. Planted in 1971, the Cabernet Sauvignon comprises 11.33 hectares, while the Merlot was planted in 1976 and covers 1.76 hectares. The conversion to biodynamic viticulture is believed to have produced better fruit, the character of which is preserved during the winemaking process.

VINTAGE

The 2020 vintage was defined by dry conditions from the onset of budburst through to harvest. Lower than average rainfall in 2019 paired with hot and dry weather in January, February and March made for almost drought-like conditions. Harvest took place from 8th February until 10th March. Bunch numbers were about average, but low berry weights produced very low yields. The resulting wines were balanced with excellent fruit purity, a vintage similar to 2003 in style.

VINIFICATION

The grapes were hand picked and carefully sorted. Each variety was fermented separately with indigenous yeasts. Fermentation time ranged from 10 - 29 days, before the wine was gently basket-pressed to barrel. It matured for 13 months in French oak, of which 50% was new, in a mixture of barriques and puncheons, with some biodynamic oak used.

TASTING NOTES

Garnet in colour with youthful ruby-purple hues. Deeply perfumed on the nose with sumptuous aromas of mulberry, chocolate, wild rose, and curry leaf. Both light and intense on the palate, with a juicy fruit core of mulberry, plum and cherry. This unctuous fruit is framed by fine grained tannins and Wilyabrup earth, ironstone, and dust, which expresses the heat of the vintage and complements the concentration of the fruit.

Grape Varieties	92% Cabernet Sauvignon 4% Merlot 3% Cabernet Franc 1% Malbec
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Winemaker	Vanya Cullen
Closure	Screwcap
ABV	13%
Bottle Sizes	75cl
Notes	Certified Biodynamic, Certified Organic, Vegetarian, Vegan