

CULLEN



2004 Cabernet Merlot

'Diana Madeline'

quality, integrity and sustainability

Pioneering winemakers of Margaret River, Diana and Dr. Kevin Cullen established their 72 acre vineyard in 1971. It is now regarded as one of Australia's greatest estates with the Chardonnay considered one of the country's finest. Diana will always be remembered as one of the Australian wine industry's most remarkable and adored women. She was responsible for making the Cullen wines from 1981 until 1989 when she handed the reins to her highly talented daughter, Vanya, Australia's Winemaker of the Year in 2000. The vineyard is organically farmed and dry grown and has 'A' grade certification with the Biological Farmers Association, after 3 years in conversion.

CULLEN
MARGARET RIVER



2004 Diana Madeline

Region:

Margaret River, Western Australia

Varietals:

84% Cabernet Sauvignon, 13% Merlot and 3% Cabernet Franc

Maturation:

18 months in French oak, 54% new barrels

Technical Analysis:

14% alc./vol.

Tasting Notes:

Even at this young stage in its development, the quality of the 2004 Diana Madeline Cabernet Sauvignon Merlot ranks with the 1995, 1999 and 2001 vintages, which were the previous outstanding vintages of the last fifteen years.

The quality of the 2004 vintage for red wines reflects the perfect conditions that existed throughout the whole of the period leading up to harvest. The main growing season was cool and dry, which was ideal as the vines did not even become mildly stressed. This was followed by warm but not extreme temperatures, which led to the production of red grapes that attained perfect physiological ripeness.

The color is deep red with crimson meniscus. A complex amalgam of blackcurrant, raspberry, cherry and vanilla aromas. Wonderfully fresh and rich black cherry and cassis fruit flavors are perfectly complimented by the velvety tannins and good background oak. Elegant, refined and of great length