



Cullen

The Cullen Cabernet Sauvignon - Merlot is a blend of elegance and power, showcasing a rich complexity and structure characteristic of Margaret River.

CULLEN WINES
WILYABRUP MARGARET RIVER



Cabernet Sauvignon - Merlot 2018

Margaret River, Australia

Region and Vineyards

The **Margaret River** region in Western Australia is celebrated for its Bordeaux-style blends, particularly Cabernet Sauvignon. The Cullen vineyard, located in **Wilyabrup**, benefits from a temperate maritime climate, moderated by the nearby Indian Ocean. This unique climate, along with ancient granite and gravelly loam soils, encourages vine health and promotes deep-rooted vineyards, contributing to the wine's structure and depth. Established in **1971**, the vineyard is **certified biodynamic and carbon-neutral**, emphasizing Cullen's commitment to sustainability and terroir-driven winemaking.

Winemaking

This vintage experienced exceptionally dry conditions, with lower-than-average rainfall from the winter and hot, dry months leading into harvest. These conditions produced low yields with smaller berry sizes, intensifying flavor concentration. This blend comprises **70% Cabernet Sauvignon, 26% Merlot, 2% Petit Verdot, 1% Malbec, and 1% Cabernet Franc**. Following hand-harvesting, the wine was matured for **8 months in French oak barrels**, with **33% new oak** to enhance complexity without overwhelming the fruit.

Tasting Notes

- **Color:** Deep ruby with violet hues.
- **Aroma:** A complex bouquet of **red fruits, plum, cigar box, and mineral notes**.
- **Palate:** Rich and layered, showcasing **dark chocolate and mulberry** flavors, framed by dense tannins that emphasize the Cabernet's pedigree. Hints of forest fruits on the mid-palate promise further development with time in bottle.

Did you know?

This wine highlights Cullen's pioneering **biodynamic practices**, and the **Cullen family** has led Margaret River's shift to sustainable viticulture. Vanya Cullen's commitment to these methods was key to the vineyard becoming the first **carbon-neutral winery** in Australia.

Alcohol :13,00 %

Composition: 62% Cabernet Sauvignon, 37% Merlot, 1% Cabernet Franc



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Wine Pairing Ideas

- **Braised Short Ribs:** The wine's tannins and depth enhance the richness of slow-cooked meats.
- **Grilled Portobello Mushrooms:** Earthy flavors complement the wine's dark fruit and mineral notes.
- **Aged Gouda:** The cheese's nutty profile pairs well with the wine's complex layers.
- **Roasted Duck with Plum Sauce:** Fruit flavors from the wine echo the sauce's sweetness, balancing the duck's richness.



Robert Parker (RP) : 89 Points (2018)

Described by Vanya Cullen as a "sort of junior Diana Madeline," the 2018 Cabernet Sauvignon Merlot is a blend of 62% Cabernet Sauvignon (Cullen Vineyard), 37% Merlot (Mangan Vineyard) and 1% Cabernet Franc (Cullen Vineyard). Boasting herb-laced, cassis aromas, it's medium to full-bodied, silky and elegant but slightly lacking concentration and length.

