

# 2023 HUNTER VALLEY SEMILLON

**V**intage 2023 in the Hunter Valley is the classic mixed bag, at least as far as semillon is concerned. Brokenwood really “nailed it”, taking out the top three places. However we encountered premature development, greenness, and probable botrytis in other wines. Buy with caution.

**2023 Brokenwood Hunter Valley Semillon** The delicate lemon grass aroma really sings the semillon song, and the length and acid line are particularly impressive. Enjoyable now but will reward keeping for a few years. (\$28.00) ★★★★★  
<https://www.brokenwood.com.au/wines>

**2023 Brokenwood Oakey Creek Vineyard Semillon** A fresh lemony, grassy semillon in the classic style. It has all the attributes for cellaring. (Not yet released) ★★★★★

**2023 Brokenwood 1899 Old Vines Hunter Valley Semillon** This is a vibrant grassy style with stone fruit overtones. The fruit weight is backed up by lively acidity. (Not yet released) ★★★★★☆

**2023 Briar Ridge Black Cluster Hunter Valley Semillon** Zesty, rich and lemony, with good fruit and acid line. Very well made. (\$50.00) ★★★★★☆  
<https://www.briarridge.com.au/Wines/Shop>

**2023 Tyrrell's Stevens Vineyard Semillon** Fresh and flavoursome, with faint overtones of peach. The palate delivers excellent length of flavour backed up by acidity. ★★★★★☆  
<https://tyrrells.com.au/membership/private-bin/>

**2023 Tyrrell's Pokolbin Hills Semillon** Although it's slightly forward, showing hints of stone fruit, this wine is generously flavoured and balanced. Short term. ★★★★★  
<https://tyrrells.com.au/membership/private-bin/>

**2023 Andrew Thomas The O.C. Semillon** The nose offers grassy and Granny Smith notes with a suggestion of pea sprout. Lively acidity lifts a satisfying palate. (\$30.00) ★★★★★  
<https://www.thomaswines.com.au/Wines---Shop/White>

**2023 Brokenwood Tallawanta Vineyard Semillon** A comparatively full flavoured semillon with sufficient acidity. A “white burgundy” in the old Aussie parlance. (Not yet released) ★★★★★

**2023 Margan Fordwich Hill Semillon** Classic Hunter lemon curd characteristics are evident in this richly flavoured example. Balanced acidity contributes to a fresh finish. 3-5 years. (Not yet released)

★★★★

<https://www.margan.com.au/>

**2023 Scarborough Green Label Hunter Valley Semillon** Fresh, tending peachy. Richly flavoured. Good short term drinking. (\$22.00)

★★★★

<https://www.scarboroughwine.com.au/Our-Wines/Classic-Range/Classic-Green-Label-Semillon>

**2023 Brokenwood Deasy's Road Vineyard Semillon** A little closed and backward at this stage, but it shows considerable promise. ★★★★★ (Not yet released)

**2023 Gundog Estate Hunter's Semillon** Citrus-scented and lively, with plenty of varietal flavour, this semillon is an enjoyable drink.

(\$30.00) ★★★★★

<https://gundogestate.com.au/wine/2023-gundog-estate-hunter-s-semillon/18902/>

**2023 Mercer Limited Release Hunter Valley Semillon** Slightly grassy with overtones of peach. The intense palate is supported by refreshing acidity. (Not yet released) ★★★★★

<https://mercerwines.com.au/>

**2023 Briar Ridge Stockhausen Hunter Valley Semillon** Perfectly ripe lemon and grass aromas and flavours. Slightly forward. (\$38.00)

★★★★

<https://www.briarridge.com.au/Wines/Shop/Range/Stockhausen>

**2023 Tyrrell's Belford Vineyard Semillon** This wine is showing a little early development, but it offers good depth of lemony varietal flavour balanced by acidity. ★★★★★

<https://tyrrells.com.au/membership/private-bin/>

**2023 Comyns & Co Casuarina Vineyard Semillon** Fresh stone fruit aroma. Plenty of forward flavour. Good acid. (Not yet released)

★★★★☆

**2023 Briar Ridge Early Harvest Hunter Valley Semillon** Rich lemon-peach aromatics. Slightly firm lemon pith finish. (\$27.00)

★★★★☆

**2023 Mercer Hunter Valley Semillon** Comparatively restrained and lemony. Good acid line. (\$26.00) ★★★★★

**2023 Scarborough The Obsessive Hunter Valley Semillon** A powerful lemony varietal. Forward short-term drinking. (\$35.00)

★★★

**2023 Gundog Estate The Chase Hunter Valley Semillon** Varietal grassiness with tropical overtones. Adequate young drinking. (\$35.00)

★★★

- 2023 Tyrrell's HVD Vineyard Semillon** Forward, tending to stone fruit characteristics. Rich but has some grip. ★★★  
<https://tyrells.com.au/membership/private-bin/>
- 2023 Hungerford Hill Hunter Valley Semillon** The nose is slightly dull, but shows some varietal grassiness. Adequate fruit is backed up by acidity. (\$27.00) ★★★
- 2023 Pepper Tree Venator Limited Release Hunter Valley Semillon** A restrained lemon grass style with a hint of green pea. (Not yet released) ★★★
- 2023 Dalwood Estate Hunter Valley Semillon** Ripe lemony aromatics. Mouthfilling. Almost ready. (Not yet released) ★★★
- 2023 Carillion Old Grafts Hunter Valley Semillon** Lemon and grass show on nose. Quite full flavoured, with balanced acid. (Not yet released) ★★★
- 2023 Sweetwater Hunter Valley Semillon** Fresh lemon butter. Quite rich and full. Ready now. (\$35.00) ★★★
- 2023 Tyrrell's Vat 1 Hunter Valley Semillon** Slightly dull. Not showing much at this stage. Has a great pedigree. Time will tell. ★★★  
<https://tyrells.com.au/membership/private-bin/>
- 2023 Andrew Thomas Braemore Semillon** Very tropical, with a green background. Has plenty of flavour, but is outside the typical Hunter square. (\$40.00) ★★★
- 2023 Pepper Tree Alluvius Hunter Valley Semillon** Pale and restrained. A lean, backward grassy varietal with good acidity. (Not yet released) ★★☆☆
- 2023 Like A Version Braemore Semillon** Citrus, tending tropical, but has green pea overtones as well. (\$35.00) ★★☆☆
- 2023 The Vinden Headcase Somerset Vineyard Semillon** Developed colour. Very forward, but still has varietal character. (\$40.00) ★★☆☆
- 2023 Briar Ridge Dairy Hill Semillon** Dull nose. Has some semillon flavour backed by acidity. (\$50.00) ★★☆☆
- 2023 Andrew Thomas Synergy Hunter Valley Semillon** Full-on tropical/pineapple with green pea. Slightly sweet. (\$23.00) ★★☆☆
- 2023 Andrew Thomas Fordwich Hill Semillon** Quite forward, showing guava/tropical fruit aromas and flavours (\$30.00) ★★☆☆

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