

BROKENWOOD

AUSTRALIAN CRAFT AT ITS FINEST



2008 Brokenwood Maxwell Vineyard Chardonnay

Variety: Chardonnay
Region: Hunter Valley - NSW

Being a primary industry the Hunter wine industry will look back (at 2007) at the weather conditions more than anything else. It wouldn't be exaggerating to say 'extreme' weather conditions.

The very small crop for the 2007 vintage had its genesis in the dry 2006 year, where only 416mm of rain fell. About half the 87 year average of 800mm. January 2007 was dry as was July and October. To then end up with over 1000mm of rain for the year, only the 8th time since 1919, meant some very wet months in between. La Nina was well and truly back. The last year over 1000mm was 1990. The most significant was the June 07 long weekend floods.

So the vines were set for a very good start and bud burst was slightly ahead of schedule. Good ground water and a very hot October was good for vegetative growth. November rain amounted to 190mm and then a further 150mm in December and while there was plenty of cloud cover the sub tropical heat was still present.

Pressure on vineyard management saw a helicopter in the area for a few vineyards including Brokenwood. January finished with 108mm of rain and considerable disease pressure meant all white grapes were harvested by the end of the month.

Vinification:

Whole bunch pressing, giving very low phenolics and run straight to barrel. Wild yeast ferment and 50% new oak.

Tasting Notes:

Appealing yellow/green colour. Aromas of cashews and sweet tropical fruit. French oak gives low vanillin, more cedar edge. Complex yeast lees stirred characters. Very good length with sufficient acid to carry the rich fruit flavours. Lemon zest and peach. A 'Cool Year Hunter' Chardonnay, that is at its best over the medium term. Excellent now, especially with rich seafood.

Food:

Light meat dishes/chicken and seafood.

Technical Data:

Alcohol	12.5%
pH	3.16
Acidity	6.25g/L
Residual Sugar	0.4g/L

Availability: 750ml

RRP: A\$32.00

Our wines are now sealed with screw cap to guarantee quality and consistency.

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