

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Brokenwood Wines named 2026 Halliday Wine Companion Winery of the Year

Hunter Valley, NSW - 21 August 2025

Brokenwood Wines has been named the **2026 Halliday Wine Companion Winery of the Year**, one of the most respected honours in Australian wine.

Selected ahead of 945 wineries from across the country, the award recognises over five decades of hard work, innovation, and a focus on producing wines that truly reflect their vineyard origins.

Brokenwood began in 1970 as a weekend project for three Sydney solicitors. Today it is one of Australia's most recognisable and respected wine brands, known for the flagship Graveyard Vineyard Shiraz, benchmark ILR Semillon, and an expanded portfolio, sourcing premium fruit from all the right regions, for all the right reasons.

Chief Winemaker Stuart Hordern said:

"This is an incredible honour for everyone at Brokenwood. Our whole team is dedicated to producing wines that speak of their place and bring people joy when they share them. We're so proud that our wines across a range of varieties, regions and price points have been recognised at this level. This is a win for the Hunter Valley, for our growers, and importantly for the legacy of everyone that has worked so hard to ensure the success of Brokenwood over the past 55 years."

CEO Geoff Krieger said:

"Brokenwood's motto has always been Make Great Wine and Have Fun. This award is proof that you can stay true to your values while aiming for the highest quality. It's recognition of the passion and professionalism of our entire team – from the vineyard to the cellar door – and of the loyalty of our wine club members and visitors who share in the journey."

This year's award follows another major milestone for Brokenwood, having been named **Hunter Valley Wine & Tourism Association Cellar Door of the Year in 2025**.

Brokenwood stood out. For the 2026 Companion, 18 Brokenwood wines were reviewed and 16 scored 95 points or above. Halliday's review noted:

"We reviewed 18 wines from the Hunter Valley stalwart for the 2026 Companion, and 16 were awarded 95 points or over; no mean feat. Some of these wines have graced the pages of the guide since its inception. Beyond the flagships, we must also consider that Brokenwood produces wines at many price points and of excellent quality."

Chief Winemaker Stuart Hordern and Winemaker Kate Sturgess were also finalists for the 2026 Halliday Winemaker of the Year. Halliday reviewer Toni Paterson MW described them as:

"A winemaking dream team, mastering every variety and region they work with. Their understanding of balance and palate harmony is outstanding, seamlessly applied to delicate, complex and robust styles. With a thoroughly contemporary approach, their Hunter Valley and broader Australian portfolio is exceptional, ensuring excellence across all varieties and price points."

About Brokenwood Wines

Brokenwood Wines began as a passion project and has since evolved into one of Australia's most respected wine labels. Established in 1970, we quickly became a leading 5-star Hunter Valley winery, known for sourcing premium fruit from all the right regions, for all the right reasons. We are driven by bold ideas and a dedicated team, aiming to provide exceptional experiences for our customers.

Our commitment to excellence is reflected in our award-winning wines, including the iconic Graveyard Vineyard Shiraz, ILR Reserve Semillon and HBA Shiraz. We are proudly accredited through Sustainable Winegrowing Australia (SWA), reflecting our dedication to sustainable practices across every facet of our operations.

For all our guests at Brokenwood, we believe that everyone should be able to “enjoy great wine and have fun” in a relaxed atmosphere. From our unique tasting pods to the Terrace Wine Bar and The Wood Restaurant, every corner of our Cellar Door embodies this philosophy.

Media Contact

Hannah Joliffe

Marketing & Communications

Brokenwood Wines

T: +61 2 4998 7559 (office)

E: hannah@brokenwood.com.au

Brokenwood Trade & Media Assets: [Click Here >](#)

Halliday 2026 Approved Assets: [Click Here >](#)

Sales Contact

Nathan Hughes

Global Sales Manager

Brokenwood Wines

M: +61 413 970 167

E: nathan@brokenwood.com.au

Halliday 2026 Reviews – Brokenwood Wines

| Vintage | Wine | Score | Release | Review | Author | Date |
|---------|--|-------|---------|--|---------------|---------------|
| 2024 | Brokenwood Hunter Valley Semillon | 95 | Nov-24 | Made exclusively from hand-picked fruit sourced across the valley, this wine offers incredible value with its pure, lemony fruit, palate breadth, freshness and length. Ever-dependable and deeply satisfying, it stands out as one of the region's best buys. Gorgeous in its youth, with lime blossom and green apple notes, it will reward careful cellaring, unveiling toast and flint characters over time. | Toni Paterson | 24/02/2025 |
| 2019 | Brokenwood ILR Reserve Semillon | 98 | Oct-25 | This iconic wine delivers power, length and intensity, with a weighty, expansive palate and remarkable complexity that set it apart. The aroma is so seamless that it is difficult to dissect, but a closer look reveals alluring hints of charred citrus, lemon butter, meringue and flint. The palate is deeply satisfying and, though it has gained extra dimensions, softness and layers with age, it retains an inherent freshness and youthful beauty. | Toni Paterson | 20/08/2025 |
| 2023 | Brokenwood 1899 Old Vines Vineyard Semillon | 97 | Apr-25 | This is the second vintage of this special wine, crafted from a small plot of vines planted in 1899. Beautifully fragrant, it showcases a sensational interplay of ripe lemon and Tahitian lime notes. The intense flavours are tightly wrapped around a core of vibrant citrus acidity, elongating the palate and promising a long future ahead. | Toni Paterson | 12/08/2025 |
| 2024 | Brokenwood Indigo Vineyard Chardonnay | 96 | Jul-25 | Ultimately satisfying with intense white nectarine, grapefruit and fragrant quince notes, building to a crescendo of flavour on the close. There is an exquisite faint mealiness that adds interest. The wine has power, presence, length and finesse. | Toni Paterson | 19/06/2025 |
| 2023 | Brokenwood Graveyard Vineyard Shiraz | 99 | May-25 | Graceful precision and effortless flow reflect the resplendent glory of Hunter Valley shiraz without overt winemaking ornamentation. The fruit is fragrant, dark, coiled and ripe, with restrained power and suppleness exhibiting an engaging fluidity, thrilling in its perfection. | Toni Paterson | 4/08/2025 |
| 2023 | Brokenwood Rayner Vineyard Shiraz | 97 | May-25 | Grapes from the Rayner vineyard were crushed in McLaren Vale and fermented in the Hunter Valley. After pressing, fermentation was completed in French oak puncheons (12% new), where the wine remained for 16 months. | Toni Paterson | 4/08/2025 |
| 2023 | Brokenwood Wade Block 2 Vineyard Shiraz | 96 | Aug-25 | Utterly glorious, with fragrant red rose petals draped over blood plums and dark chocolate. Despite the fabulous, concentrated fruit core, the wine is not juicy; instead, spice and a compelling savouriness define the palate. | Toni Paterson | 4/08/2025 |
| 2024 | Brokenwood Oakey Creek Vineyard Chardonnay | 93 | May-25 | Made from hand-harvested, whole-bunch pressed fruit and wild fermented in French oak, this is the third release of this single vineyard wine. | Toni Paterson | 12/12/2024 |
| 2024 | Brokenwood Rosato | 95 | Sep-24 | Made from sangiovese and nebbiolo from NSW and Victoria, with foot-stomping used on specific parcels. Super classy, bright and dry with picture-perfect colour. | Toni Paterson | 3/02/2025 |
| 2023 | Brokenwood Wildwood Road Vineyard Cabernet Sauvignon | 97 | Jul-25 | Exemplary fruit and skilled winemaking have resulted in an outstanding cabernet where lofty cassis and succulent blood plum fruits mingle with ethereal tapenade and violet. | Toni Paterson | 4/08/2025 |
| 2023 | Brokenwood Tallawanta Vineyard Shiraz | 98 | May-25 | An impressive, long-living wine from a heritage vineyard planted in 1920. Mellow, inky, dark and mysterious, this is an utterly compelling and unique wine. | Toni Paterson | 4/08/2025 |
| 2023 | Brokenwood Verona Vineyard Shiraz | 97 | Oct-25 | Fragrant raspberries, supple dark cherries and pomegranates accented by a little violet and rose. The palate is perfectly poised and medium weight. | Toni Paterson | 4/08/2025 |
| 2023 | Brokenwood Hunter Valley Shiraz | 96 | Aug-25 | | Toni Paterson | Not published |
| 2023 | Brokenwood Vegas Block Shiraz | 96 | Mar-25 | Vegas Block is one of the younger vine plantings on the Graveyard vineyard, co-planted with 5% each of pinot noir and trebbiano. | Toni Paterson | 11/03/2025 |

BROKENWOOD

HUNTER VALLEY

| Vintage | Wine | Score | Release | Review | Author | Date |
|---------|--|-------|---------|--|---------------|------------|
| 2024 | Brokenwood Wondalma Vineyard Chardonnay | 96 | May-25 | Crafted from hand-picked grapes from the Wondalma vineyard, planted in '92. Incredibly fresh and inviting, with lemony depth and subtle oak accents. | Toni Paterson | 4/08/2025 |
| 2024 | Brokenwood Lillydale Vineyard Chardonnay | 96 | Sep-25 | Textbook proportions, integration and harmony set this wine apart. | Toni Paterson | 4/08/2025 |
| 2024 | Brokenwood Indigo Vineyard Pinot Noir | 96 | Feb-25 | Fermented with 30% whole bunches and matured in French oak barriques and puncheons. A beautiful, ethereal wine. | Toni Paterson | 19/06/2025 |


www.brokenwood.com.au


[instagram.com/BrokenwoodWines](https://www.instagram.com/BrokenwoodWines)


[facebook.com/BrokenwoodWines](https://www.facebook.com/BrokenwoodWines)

[linkedin.com/company/brokenwood-wines](https://www.linkedin.com/company/brokenwood-wines)

401-427 McDonalds Road, Pokolbin NSW 2320

 +61 2 4998 7559

 +61 2 4998 7893

 sales@brokenwood.com.au