

2023 Kumeu River Hunting Hill Chardonnay

VINEYARD REGION

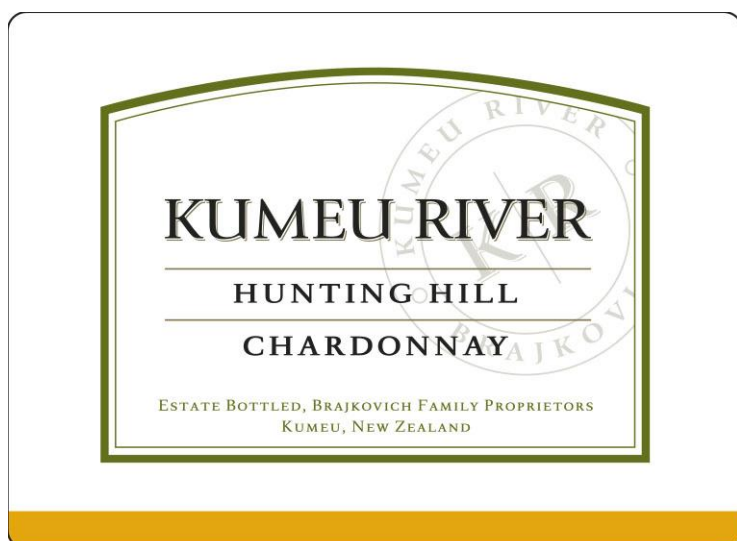
Hunting Hill
Kumeu, Auckland
Vineyard Size: 3.37 hectares
Planted 2001

VINIFICATION

Hand harvested
Whole-bunch pressed
Indigenous yeast fermentation
100% barrel fermentation
French Oak
100% malo-lactic fermentation
11 months maturation in barrel
12.8% vol.

WINEMAKER

Michael Brajkovich M.W.



Hunting Hill is a vineyard that was first planted in 1982 and became a significant part of the original Kumeu River Chardonnay blend. Occupying the slope overlooking Mate's Vineyard, it has always contributed lovely ripe and rich fruit to the Estate Chardonnay. Hunting Hill was replanted in 2000 and is now even better than before, giving beautifully ripe fruit with a distinctive mealy minerality.

The 2023 vintage in Hunting Hill was both lighter in ripeness and also lower in yield. The reduction in yield has made for quite a textural Hunting Hill. Even though 2023 was a lighter year, Hunting Hill is still very recognisable for its fragrance of lemon/lime blossom. The palate is silky and textural with the distinctive lemon drop on the finish. This is a beautifully balanced Hunting Hill that even though approachable now will definitely benefit from bottle age of 5 – 8 years.