

AUSTRALIAN GOURMET TRAVELLER WINE

The Panel—
Peter Bourne, Nick Bulleid MW,
Andrew Caillard MW, Huon Hooke,
Sophie Otton and Peter Forrester

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TOP 10 of top 20 semillons

Margan Semillon



“Hunter Valley Semillon is one of Australia’s great wine styles, standing alongside Rutherglen muscat and tokay in being admired around the world for its distinctiveness and quality. When talking about Australia’s best semillon, one can’t help but revolve the subject around the Hunter...

...Margan is one of the superstars, soaring into the top 10 very early in the life of their winery...

One of the most impressive of the new wave of Hunter producers, Andrew Margan has used his winemaking experience to transform the family’s grape-growing business into a flourishing winery where quality is paramount. The semillon blends fruit from the youngish Ceres Hill home vineyard with grapes from ultra-low cropping, 35-year-old unirrigated vines on the Fordwich Hill vineyard. I saw the 1999 Margan Semillon as having lanolin and straw characters, intense flavours, the beginnings of development and complexity, yet still tight with powerful, racy acidity. Hooke commented on its finesse, balance and length, beautiful medium to full-yellow richness, and beeswax aromas. An each-way style: drink now or cellar.”