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**Forbes**

## FORBESLIFESTYLESPIRITS

### Holiday Gift Guide 2023: New Zealand Sauvignon Blancs



With its ripe aromas, this Marlborough citrus Sauvignon Blanc is quite perfumed and delicate.

**Arona Sauvignon Blanc 2023, \$13.99**

This is one of four Sauvignon Blanc wines that Barkers Marque crafts, and it boasts notes of citrus so ripe it's almost tropical, with some wet stone and smoky passionfruit. It's a lively wine that's sure to provoke lively conversation.



This is a highly complex wine that's great for gifting.

**Three Brooms Sauvignon Blanc 2023, \$18.99**

This single vineyard Sauvignon Blanc offers rich and intense layers of aromas from lemongrass to wet stone minerality and brine. It is a spicy, creamy wine.

## The Washington Post The 12 Best bargain wines of 2023



**#5 Arona Sauvignon Blanc 2022 Marlborough, New Zealand, \$16**  
This sauvignon blanc shows the raciness we've come to expect from New Zealand savvie, without the vegetal jalapeno notes we sometimes get. Look for mango and passion fruit flavors to join apricot and tart red currants in a virtual fruit salad on your palate. Each time I come back to my glass, the mélange of flavors shifted to something new and delicious. Pair this with any seafood dish. Certified sustainable. ABV: 12.5 percent. BW: 540 grams (Average).

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### Holiday Gift Guide 2023: New Zealand Sauvignon Blancs...

**Jeanette Hurt**  
Contributor

If you have a wine lover in your life, you can't go wrong with gifting a bottle of Sauvignon Blanc. And some of the most delectable and aromatic versions of Sauvignon Blanc can be found in New Zealand. Here's a list of some of the best New Zealand Sauvignon Blancs. All of these wines are sourced from Marlborough, New Zealand, and nearly each wine on this list has been independently certified by [Appellation Marlborough Wine](#), an organization trademark registered in 2018 to safeguard the Marlborough wine region for future generations. For a wine to be AMW certified, it must be made from 100 percent, sustainably grown and certified Marlborough grapes, as well as independently tasted to provide quality assurance to consumers.



With its ripe citrus aromas, this Marlborough Sauvignon Blanc is quite perfumed and delicate. [Barkers Marque Wines](#) 2023 Arona Sauvignon Blanc, \$13.99  
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Forrest 2023 Sauvignon Blanc offers great flavors and represents the Marlborough region excellently. [Forrest Wines](#) 2023 Sauvignon Blanc, \$21.99  
This is a classic Sauvignon Blanc in the Marlborough style, full of minerality. It boasts notes of passionfruit, guava, lemon, thyme, sage and a hint of white flowers.



This wine reflects a depth and breadth of Marlborough's wide variations in growing sites and soils. [Astrolabe Wines](#) 2023 Sauvignon Blanc, \$27  
This is the second year in a row that Astrolabe's flagship Sauvignon Blanc has been recognized, and it includes fruit from every grower and sub-region the winery harvests from. A medium-bodied white wine, it offers aromas of makrut lime, passionfruit and lemongrass with a smooth, dry finish.



This wine is named for a mountain in the Marlborough wine region. [A&K Wines](#) Tapi 2023 Sauvignon Blanc, \$18  
Mount Tapuae-o-Uenuku or Tapi, as the locals call it, rises above the Marlborough wine region. This delicious wine offers notes of ripe lemon, tropical fruits, passionfruit, lime, lemon and blackcurrants.



This beautiful wine was crafted at a family-owned and family-run winery. [Mount Riley](#) Limited Release 2023 Sauvignon Blanc, \$17  
This wine also boasts a second year running in the AMW annual collection. This lovely wine boasts notes of passionfruit, crushed herb and blackcurrant with undertones of boxwood and citrus pith.



This lovely Sauvignon Blanc was crafted from grapes picked in Renwick, Waihopai Valley and Dillons ... [Smith & Sheth](#) CRU 2023 Wairau Sauvignon Blanc, \$25  
The CRU vintage is curated from vineyards of exceptional quality. With tropical notes of melon and pineapple with hints of citrus, this is a gorgeous wine for celebrating.



This Sauvignon Blanc is sourced from a wild, sea-swept estate in New Zealand. [Otū](#) 2023 Sauvignon Blanc, \$18.99  
The wild, sea-swept Otūwhero Estate is set where the Otūwhero River meets the Pacific Ocean, making this a very unique subregion. Fresh and intensely vibrant, this wine boasts notes of ripe passionfruit, lime and gooseberry.



This New Zealand Sauvignon Blanc hails from a single vineyard. [Villa Maria](#) Taylor's Pass 2022 Sauvignon Blanc Marlborough, \$26.99  
This single vineyard Sauvignon Blanc boasts notes of fresh garden peas and blackcurrants mingled with herbs. On the palate are concentrated flavors of jalapeño and lemongrass, with a punchy finish of lime zest and a hint of gunflint.



This lovely wine is a classic expression of New Zealand Sauvignon Blanc. [Dog Point Vineyard](#) 2023 Sauvignon Blanc Marlborough, \$24.99  
This family-owned estate is home to one of the oldest, privately established vineyards in Marlborough. The grapes were handpicked, and this wine boasts notes of grapefruit and with peach with a some subtle smoke and gravel notes.



This wine is named for the Opawa River that originally shaped the vineyard's soils. [Nautilus Estate](#) Opawa 2023 Sauvignon Blanc, \$22  
This lovely wine embodies the classic style of Marlborough Sauvignon Blancs with bright, upfront aromatics including crisp citrus and passionfruit with hints of fresh herbs.



The Paper Nautilus turns down the volume of punchy aromatics yet still exhibits a sense of place. [The Paper Nautilus](#) Heritage Block Renwick Estate 2-22 Sauvignon Blanc, \$50  
This wine reflects the winery's 38 years of fermenting Sauvignon Blanc. Sourced from their oldest Sauvignon Blanc vines grown in their very first vineyard, all the grapes are handpicked and then fermented in a large, old oak cuvée. The resulting wine is intense with aromas of citrus blossom, lemongrass and green gage plums.



This beautiful Sauvignon Blanc was included two years running in the AMW Annual Collection, as it is ... [Greywacke](#) 2021 Wild Sauvignon, \$31  
This lovely wine is under the label of Kevin Judd, one of Marlborough's pioneer winemakers. Fermented in old oak barrels using wild yeast, this is an intricate, textural wine with a lingering, savory finish, boasting notes of quince and yellow apple, gooseberries and caramelized lemon.



[Cloudy Bay](#) 2023 Sauvignon Blanc, \$35  
Impress your friends with the Sauvignon Blanc that put New Zealand on the wine map back in 1985. The 2023 Sauvignon Blanc is zesty and vibrant, gently balanced by stony saline notes. The nose has appealing aromas of ripe honeydew melon, passionfruit, and a subtle touch of fresh blackcurrant leaf, and the palate is concentrated and elegant, with hints of fresh sea air.



Wine Spectator  
2022

Robert Parker  
WINE ADVOCATE

WINE ENTHUSIAST  
MAGAZINE