



RAMEY

Chardonnay

RITCHIE VINEYARD

RUSSIAN RIVER VALLEY

VINEYARD

Appellation	Russian River Valley
Site	Ritchie Vineyard is widely spaced, as was the fashion in the early '70s. These old vines with their gnarly trunks produce small clusters with distinct “hen and chick” character.
Soil	The benchland soil is gravelly, sandy Goldridge Loam, originating from the bed of an ancient inland sea, over volcanic Tufa rock
Clone	Old Wente selection
Planted	Our block of Kent Ritchie’s vineyard was planted in 1972

VINTAGE

Growing Season	2016 began with another very early bloom, leading to a very early harvest in Sonoma County – our first fruit arrived August 5. Three weeks of cool weather in August and September relaxed the pace of harvest, allowing for methodical picking decisions and perfectly developed fruit. Yields were relatively average – down from 2014 and up from 2015.
Harvest Date Brix	August 30 22.7°

WINEMAKING

Varietal Composition	100% Chardonnay
Fermentation	We gently press whole clusters for phenolic delicacy. Native yeast and full native malolactic fermentation take place in barrel, with <i>sur lies bâtonnage</i> .
Aging	After aging 20 months in 20% new French oak barrels (François Freres), this Chardonnay was fined and settled in tank. It was then bottled without filtration.
Cases Alcohol	898 14.5%
Release Date Price	Dec 2019 \$65

“Our Ritchie Vineyard Chardonnay walks the fine line between richness & delicacy. It has a complex and harmonious mouthfeel that balances power with elegance.” – David Ramey