



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 70's. These old vines with their gnarly trunks produce tiny quantities of grapes per vine.
Soil	The benchland soil is gravelly, sandy Goldridge Loam, originating from the bed of an ancient inland sea. This soil type is common to great vineyards in this part of the Russian River Valley.
Clone	Old Wente selection
Planted	Our block of Kent Ritchie's vineyard was planted in 1972, so the vines were thirty-three years old this vintage.

VINTAGE

Growing Season	The 2005 growing season was cooler than average with few heat spikes, leading to an evenly paced harvest. Due to a dry winter, berries of all varietals were smaller and more concentrated. 2005 is recognized as an outstanding vintage for Northern California.
Harvest Date Brix	September 21 23.6°

WINEMAKING

Varietal Compositon	100% Chardonnay
Fermentation	We press the whole clusters for delicacy. Native-yeast and full native malolactic fermentation take place in barrel, with <i>sur lies bâtonnage</i> .
Aging	After aging 19 months in two-thirds new François Frères French oak barrels, this Chardonnay was fined and settled in tank. It was then bottled without filtration.
Cases Alcohol	1,070 14.5%
Release Date	March 2008

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