



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 pure sandy Goldridge Loam, originating from the bed of an inland sea. This soil type is common to great vineyards in this part of the Russian River Valley.
Clonal Selection	Old Wente selection
Planted	Our block of Kent Ritchie's vineyard was planted in 1972, so the vines were forty years old this vintage.

VINTAGE

Growing Season	The 2012 growing season was close to ideal with temperate and steady temperatures that produced a long, moderate growing season with extended hang time and even ripening. There were no significant heat spikes or rains.
Brix Harvest Date	23.9° September 25

WINEMAKING

Varietal Composition	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 18 months in 1/3 new François Frères French oak barrels, this Chardonnay was fined and settled in tank. It was then bottled without filtration.
Cases Release Date	1,344 February 2015
Alcohol	14.5%

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