



# RAMEY

*Chardonnay*

RITCHIE VINEYARD

RUSSIAN RIVER VALLEY

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## VINEYARD

<b>Site</b>	Ritchie Vineyard is widely spaced, as was the fashion in the early '70s. These old, gnarly trunked vines produce small clusters with distinct “hen and chick” berry sizes.
<b>Soil</b>	The bench land soil is gravelly, sandy Goldridge Loam, originating from the bed of an ancient inland sea, over volcanic Tuff rock. The vine rows slope down from an old, volcanic vent jutting up through the sandstone.
<b>Clonal Selection</b>	Old Wente selection with a few scattered Musqué selection vines planted in 1972

## VINTAGE

<b>Growing Season</b>	The winter of 2019 was relatively mild, but record rains flooded many dormant vineyards on lower ground through March. Temperatures fluctuated April through June before evening out for a moderately warm growing season. Heat in early September gave everything a little push before a significant cooling trend slowed the pace of harvest. Yields were generally average.
<b>Harvest Date   Brix</b>	September 4 & 13   22.3°

## WINEMAKING

<b>Varietal Composition</b>	100% Chardonnay
<b>Fermentation</b>	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> .
<b>Aging</b>	After aging 20 months in 20% new François Freres & Taransaud Beaune French oak barrels, the Chardonnay was traditionally fined for clarity and texture and bottled without filtration.
<b>Cases   Alcohol</b>	588   13.5%
<b>Release Date   Price</b>	April 2022   \$75

*We've worked with the same block of Ritchie Vineyard Chardonnay since 2002. The floral character of the small portion of Musqué lends an aromatic lift while the Old Wente provides structure and acidity. – David Ramey*

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