



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 forty-two years old this vintage.

VINTAGE

Growing Season	2014 was another classic vintage. A mild winter and spring caused an early bud break followed by consistent temperatures throughout the summer promoting even ripening. We had ample hang time which in turn yielded distinct varietal character with a smooth, rich texture.
Harvest Date Brix	September 6 23.5°

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 30% new François Frères French oak barrels, this Chardonnay was fined and settled in tank. It was then bottled without filtration.
Cases Alcohol	1,250 14.5%
Release Date Price	August 2017 \$65

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