

GARY FARRELL

VINEYARDS & WINERY

2023 Ritchie Vineyard Chardonnay Russian River Valley

VINEYARDS & VINTAGE NOTES

Ritchie Vineyard is legendary in Russian River Valley, widely regarded as one of the best Chardonnay sites in all of California. The vineyard was first planted in 1972 to a handful of heritage selections, including Old Wente, and sits on a rolling northwest facing hillside in the heart of Russian River Valley. The unique soil profile, comprised of Goldridge series sandy loam and a layer of volcanic ash deposits, creates wines with great intensity, which exude a rare purity and sense of place. For more than forty years, Kent Ritchie has farmed this vineyard with passion, precision, and a loving touch. Like the best growers in the area, he understands that the relationship with the winemakers are as important as the quality of the finished product that bears his name.

2023 was a very long, cool growing season, resulting in our latest start and finish to harvest on record. The extended hang time at lower temperatures provided gorgeous fruit with stunning flavors, structure, and complexity for another vintage of beautiful wines.

WINEMAKING NOTES

The grapes were hand-harvested, then carefully sorted and whole-cluster pressed using a gentle press program. After pressing, the juice was allowed to cold-settle overnight before inoculating with Montrachet yeast, then transferring to 30% new French Oak for fermentation and aging. After 10 months of aging, each barrel was carefully evaluated, and the most elegantly structured wines were selected for this beautiful single vineyard wine.

TASTING NOTES

Aromas of apple blossom, orchard fruits, and bright pomelo are lifted by a delicate creamy nuance. The palate is lively and approachable, offering golden apple and citrus tones framed by subtle oak and the vineyard's signature mineral freshness. Zippy, balanced, and distinctly food-friendly, the 2023 vintage captures a polished yet easygoing expression of this renowned Chardonnay site.



APPELLATION
Russian River Valley

COMPOSITION
100% Chardonnay

FERMENTATION & AGING
10 months, 30% new
French oak

ALCOHOL
13.9%

PH / T.A.
3.41 / 6.30 gm/L

PRODUCTION
245 cases

BOTTLING DATE
July 2024

RETAIL PRICE
\$80.00



garyfarrellwinery.com

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