



2022 RITCHIE VINEYARD, CHARDONNAY

Russian River Valley

WINERY

The core principle of the winemaking philosophy at Arista is to capture and express the true character and potential of each vineyard. They work with a very carefully chosen handful of grand-cru level Pinot Noir and Chardonnay vineyards, and are uncompromising in their efforts to maximize the full potential of the wines crafted from these special sites.

WINE

Ritchie Vineyard is without a doubt one of California's Grand Cru Chardonnay sites. For nearly 50 years, Kent Ritchie has cultivated this unique slope in the Russian River Valley, yielding legendary wines. We're privileged to work with the vineyard's oldest and highest block, one of the earliest Chardonnay plantings in the area. These ancient vines produce small but intense clusters annually, resulting in consistently balanced, intense, and poised wines.

VINEYARDS

Kent Ritchie has farmed his namesake vineyard since the early 1970s. Located at the intersection of Eastside and Trenton Roads, it sits on a bench where the Russian River, Santa Rosa Plain, and Laguna de Santa Rosa meet. Cool coastal fog and abundant sun, combined with sandy Goldridge soils, make it ideal for Chardonnay—mostly planted to Old Wente Selection, prized for low yields and intense flavor.

VINTAGE NOTES

The 2022 Sonoma season began early with low rainfall and a warm spring, followed by two frost events in the Russian River Valley. A mild summer led to our earliest harvest, completed just before a major September heatwave. The vintage produced crystalline, aromatic wines with distinct character, shaped by the season's challenges.

WINEMAKING

12 months fermentation and aging in barrel followed by 4-6 months in stainless steel. Unfined, unfiltered.

TASTING NOTES

Defined by citrus-driven layers and vibrant acidity from the warm vintage, this wine is energetic and tightly focused. Stone fruit leads the nose, while the palate is silky and opulent. With time, notes of yellow peach, sweet cream, and caramelized sugar unfold, adding depth to this bright, complex expression of New World Chardonnay.



VINEYARD

Region:	California
Appellation:	Sonoma County
Sub-Appellation:	Russian River Valley
Soil:	Well-drained, sandy, Goldridge soils
Age:	45 years on average
Eco-Practices:	Sustainable practices

WINEMAKING

Varietals:	100% Chardonnay
Aging:	12 months fermentation and aging in barrel followed by 4-6 months in stainless steel

TECHNICAL DETAILS

Yeast:	Native
Alcohol:	14.4%