



DE LOACH
VINEYARDS

The Russian River Valley Original



Appellation
Russian River Valley

Alcohol
14.5% by volume

pH
5.6

Titratable Acidity
3.38 g/L

Aged in Oak
100%

40% New Oak

Origin of Oak
French

Months in Barrel
14

2014 RITCHIE VINEYARD CHARDONNAY

In the Vineyard

With its beautiful old vines nestled on a rolling northwest-facing hillside in the heart of the Russian River Valley, the Ritchie Vineyard commands respect. First planted in 1972. Sandy Goldridge soils from an ancient seabed combine with volcanic ash deposits and pockets of tufa rocks and sloping benchlands leading into the Russian River to create a remarkably unique “Grand Cru” site that produces wines of strength and great natural acidity. The wines often exhibit a rare complexity and intensity that has spawned a legion of loyal Ritchie followers.

Conversations with the Winemaker

A blend of two Chardonnay clones contributes to the unique character of this wine: the Musqué clone yields fruit of delightful floral and sweet spice nuance, while the Wente clone imparts rich texture and multi-dimensional layers of fruit. Hand picking, sorting, and whole-cluster basket pressing preserves these flavors, while barrel fermentation and sur lie aging lend firmness and palate richness, establishing structure for this wine to retain depth and complexity for several years.

Tasting Notes

Our 2014 Ritchie Vineyard Chardonnay opens with enticing aromas of Asian Pear and hazelnut with a touch of Meyer lemon. Creamy flavors of Fuji apple with toasted oats and vanilla crème spread across the palate. Well balanced acidity and a long finish make this a delightful pairing with roasted chicken or hard cheeses.

JEAN-CHARLES BOISSET
Proprietor

BRIAN MALONEY
Winemaker