

# METZKER

## FAMILY ESTATES

### CHARDONNAY RITCHIE VINEYARD Russian River Valley 2018



**Alcohol:** 14.5 %

**Aging:** 60% New French Oak for 15 Months

**Harvest Date:** September 19th, 2018

**Fermentation:** 100% Whole Cluster Pressed and Barrel Fermented

**AVA:** 100% Russian River Valley Sonoma County

**Production:** 160 Cases

**Clone:** Wente



#### Vintage:

Despite a warm February, the 2018 growing season started off cooler than the past few vintages. A cool spring meant bloom lasted longer than usual, but fruit set was consistent and near-perfect leading to large grape clusters. There were a couple small weather events during set, but most Russian River and Sonoma Coast vineyards were not affected. Summer temperatures were moderate with fewer heat spikes than in recent years.

#### Tasting Notes:

The 2018 Ritchie Vineyard Chardonnay is a complex and luxurious wine with inviting notes of stone fruit and lemon curd on the nose and warm oak undertones that create a richness on the palate. The uplifting acid on the finish creates a wine that has great length and longevity. Ritchie Vineyard continues to produce some of the most spectacular Chardonnay in the world.

