



FLANAGAN

2023 CHARDONNAY *Ritchie Vineyard*

APPELLATION Russian River Valley

HARVEST DATE 9/22/2023

pH 3.33

TA 5.6

ABV 13.5%

BARREL REGIMEN 1 Millard Light Plus, one Atelier Medium long.
33% new.

CASES PRODUCED 115

RELEASE DATE March 2025

VINEYARD NOTES

The 2023 vintage saw the end of the severe drought that started in 2021. Abundant winter rains continued through the spring and into June. The very cold and wet spring meant a late start for budbreak, delayed flowering and fruit set, and, ultimately, a late harvest. Our last fruit came in November 1st!

Ritchie is a very famous Sonoma County vineyard located on East Side Road in the heart of the Russian River Valley. It is a relatively warm site and generally produces a richer style of Chardonnay. We make our Chardonnay in a clean, balanced style that reflects both the site and the vintage. The 2023 Ritchie Chardonnay has bright acidity and a compelling tension on the palate. In the 2023 vintage we allowed the native yeasts on the grape skins to start all of our Chardonnay fermentations. This is somewhat riskier than inoculating with a yeast strain with well known attributes, but the native yeasts are part of the terroir and can result in really unique and distinctive wines.

TASTING NOTES

The nose displays Apricot Blossom, Jasmine, and Citrus Blossom. On the palate there are notes of Nectarine, Almond Wood, and Quince. The moderate amount of new French oak is beautifully integrated in this elegant wine. We used Atelier and Millard barrels.

The Russian River Valley is among the top regions in the world to grow Chardonnay and Ritchie is a grand cru quality vineyard site. The Flanagan Chardonnay Ritchie is one of the top Chardonnays produced in Sonoma County.

