



BOICH FAMILY CELLAR

2018 CHARDONNAY

AVA: Russian River

Vineyard: Ritchie Vineyard

Winemaker: Jeff Ames

Cooperage: 10 Months French Oak, François Freres, Saury

Ritchie Vineyard – Farmed by proprietor Kent Ritchie since 1972, this vineyard produces wine of rare intensity and complexity. With old vines tucked into sloping benchlands that lead into the Russian River, the Ritchie vineyard lies in the heart of the Russian River Valley appellation. A great balance of cooling ocean fog and slightly warmer inland temperatures produce wines with intense, natural acidity with an extra richness and lushness. Sandy Goldridge soils combined with volcanic ash deposits provide great drainage while limiting vine vigor and yield.

Russian River AVA – Centered on Sonoma County’s Russian River, this AVA set the standard for California Pinot Noir and Chardonnay varietals. Known for its characteristically cool climate, ocean influence blows through the Petaluma Gap, bringing foggy nights graciously soaked up by the vines. The central region of the Russian River AVA fosters ripe fruit with rich mouthfeel and bright acidity, producing some of the best Chardonnay in the world.

Vintage Notes – With a cooler start than previous years, 2018 brought moderate temperatures and a long growing season to the Russian River Valley. An even-keeled spring resulted in excellent fruit set and generous cluster counts, while few summer heat spikes allowed for increased hangtime and the development of more intense flavors. A truly exceptional vintage for Sonoma coast Chardonnay.

Wine Maker Notes – Bursting with perfumed white peach, roman chamomile and wildflower honey, the flirtatious 2018 Ritchie has a creamy and elegant presence on the nose. The palate is elevated and textured with both stone fruit and citrus rind followed by white flower and crème brûlée notes on the finish. There is a strength here but a lifted acidity as well, making the chardonnay a truly remarkable wine.