

WEST SONOMA COAST

2012 RITCHIE VINEYARD

CHARDONNAY

➤ ELEV. 130 FT. / PACIFIC OCEAN 15 MI.

SONOMA COAST

➤ RITCHIE VINEYARD

Few new world Chardonnay sites rival the famed Ritchie Vineyard. Aubert, Dumol, Ramey and others have showcased the quality of this vineyard for decades, crafting some of the most sought-after Chardonnay this side of the Cote d'Or. Well-farmed old vines (40 years) planted to true old Wente clone in Goldridge Loam soils is a hard combination to beat. What intrigued us about Ritchie was the opportunity to turn our predecessors' riper style on its head, and harness the potential of the vineyard to create a California Chardonnay with balance, perfume, texture, minerality, and nuance. The 2012 vintage exceeds our expectations and is experiencing a delightfully slow fermentation. As such, the final blend is not quite finished so the technical data below may be subject to minor change.

➤ TASTE

Citrus pith, apricots, bright minerality

> PHILOSOPHY

Red Car is focused on growing Pinot Noir, Chardonnay and Syrah in a network of cold-climate vineyards on the edge of the Pacific in the West Sonoma Coast. We are hands-on farmers, part of a small cadre of wineries in our region who are fortunate to grow a large majority of our own fruit. For several years now we have worked hard to go beyond sustainability and have integrated the concepts and principles of organic, biodynamic and permaculture systems into our farming as we search for nature's ideal pathways. Our wines are made in small lots utilizing minimalist intervention techniques like native yeast fermentation, gravity flow, and natural acid.

SPECS

ALCOHOL	13.9%
VINEYARD	Ritchie
AVA	Sonoma Coast
PRODUCTION	440 Cases
AVERAGE BRIX	23.0°
TOTAL ACIDITY	6.03 g/L
FRENCH OAK	13% New, 87% Neutral
pH LEVEL	3.35
CLONES	Old Wente
SOIL TYPE	Goldridge
BARREL AGING	14 Months

