

RED • CAR

WEST SONOMA COAST

2015 SONOMA COAST

CHARDONNAY

► APPELLATION AND VINTAGE

Red Car Sonoma Coast Chardonnay features some of the coldest Chardonnay vineyards in California, combined with a few of best known Chardonnay vineyards in our area. A significant portion of the blend hails from the Ritchie Vineyard, originally planted in the early 1970s and famous the world over. In 2015, conditions were outstanding for Chardonnay in the West Sonoma Coast. Plenty of sunshine, a small but focused crop, and little rain before harvest yielded little clusters with high acid and complex flavors at reasonably low sugars, which resulted in wines with naturally moderate alcohol levels. Our Chardonnay grapes are pressed off their skins and fermented in French Oak barrels, the majority of which are older, neutral and no longer imparting strong oak flavors. The resulting wines are racy and taut, medium bodied and complex with a mineral edge.

► TASTE

Lemon zest, wet stone, chamomile

► WHO WE ARE

For nearly 20 years, we have been on a journey—one that started with 50 cases of Syrah vinified in a garage in sunny Los Angeles. A short time later, we marched steadily northward toward a vision of cooler vineyard sites and the complex, aromatic wines they can express. Today, under the direction of viticulturist, Greg Adams, and winemaker, Tanner Scheer, we farm five dramatic ridge-top vineyards in Occidental, Sebastopol, Freestone and Cazadero. This rugged terrain's coastal influence—where the Pacific fog filters in daily through giant redwoods until warm sunshine sends it back out to the sea—provides perfect growing conditions for our hallmark style: perfumed aromatics, bright fruit, crisp texture and uplifting acidity. An early leader in the formation of the proposed West Sonoma Coast AVA, we are passionately committed to producing wines of purity and focus that express the authentic varietal character and terroir of each unique coastal vineyard site. At our core, we are a small, independent farming operation committed to conservation and sustainability.

SPECS

AVA	<i>Sonoma Coast</i>
AVERAGE BRIX	<i>21.7°</i>
TOTAL ACIDITY	<i>6.3 g/L</i>
FRENCH OAK	<i>9% New, 91% Neutral</i>
pH LEVEL	<i>3.38</i>
CLONES	<i>Wente, 76, 5</i>
VINEYARDS	<i>Ritchie Red Car Estate Zephyr Farms Manchester Ridge Hawk Hill</i>

VINEYARDS *on the* EDGE OF THE PACIFIC

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