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Kent Ritchie's Eastside Road Vineyard has a reputation for making some of the best Chardonnays in Sonoma County. Good drainage from the sloping property, in conjunction with the unique soil profile of Goldridge and volcanic ash deposits make for top-notch grapes that display acidity and intensity.

This wine comes from the prized Horseshoe Block of Ritchie Vineyard, which features older Wente clone plantings, which yields a tantalizing chardonnay with wonderful tropical fruit elements and minerality—qualities that were enhanced by the long, cool 2017 growing season. The grapes for this wine were picked and sorted by hand before being cold-settled for 24 hours. The wine was then barreled down and fermented in 100% French oak, with daily barrel stirring during primary fermentation. The wine was then aged for an additional 11 months in barrel.

This vivid and alluring wine begins with dazzling aromas of white peach, lemon, sweet hay, white flowers and tropical fruit that leap from the glass. On the palate, flavors of nectarine, citrus pineapple and shortbread are underscored by bright acid and an enlivening wet stone minerality that draws the wine to a long, juicy finish.

APPELLATION: *Russian River Valley*

VARIETAL: *100% Chardonnay*

CLONES: *Wente*

CLIMATE: *Relatively cool, regular morning fog*

PLANTED: *15+ years old*

YIELD: *3.0 tons per acre*

SOIL: *Goldridge*

COOPERAGE: *40% new; François Frères, Louis Latour, Damy and Taransaud*

PH: *3.57*

T.A.: *5.6*

ALCOHOL: *14.2%*

PRODUCTION: *175 cases*

CELLAR RECOMMENDATION: *Enjoy now through 2027.*

2017
Ritchie Vineyard
Horseshoe Block
Chardonnay

