



Wine Profile
Moone-Tsai 2017 Paige Cuvée Chardonnay
Ritchie Vineyard, Russian River Valley

Tasting Notes

While the whimsy of Mother Nature was on full display during the 2017 growing season, the hallmarks of brilliant fruit borne by the remarkable Ritchie Vineyard in the storied Russian River Valley glisten gloriously in the glass. Hints of floral aromas combine with a subtle grassiness and citrus notes to announce the wine's arrival. Beyond this olfactory greeting, the wine further entices with suggestions of white nectarine, lilikoi, toast, and lemon zest. Barrel-fermented and aged 16-months in 37% new French Oak, the wine is delicately oaked, and further reveals a soft layering of texture and flavors, enhanced by a pleasing acidity and subtle richness. Showing an alluring depth and nuanced complexity at this delightful stage of gilded youthfulness, this charming chardonnay brings to mind our older daughter, Paige, for whom this most remarkable wine is named.

Planted by the venerable Kent Ritchie, this acclaimed 70-acre vineyard is located on a northwest-facing hillside in the heart of the Russian River Valley ...where the Santa Rosa Plain and the Laguna de Santa Rosa converge. On this pedigreed site known for its old vines, gnarly vines, coastal breezes and cool morning fog, the gravelly, well-drained Goldridge soil and volcanic tufa combine to foster low-yielding vines that produce coveted chardonnay grapes known for their intensity, complexity, freshness and vibrancy.

Winemaker: Philippe Melka, Bordeaux-bred (*Chateau Haut Brion, Petrus*) and— recently heralded by Robert Parker as one of the top nine winemakers in the world. *“Where possible, I will minimize winemaking techniques in the cellar so I can create a wine that tells the story of the vineyard. In the end, it must be about the fruit.”*

Wine Facts

Varietal Composition:	100% Chardonnay
Vineyards:	Ritchie Vineyard, Russian River Valley
Production:	100 cases
Harvest Date:	August 31, 2017
Cooperage:	37% new French oak: Francois Freres, Rousseau, Damy
Bottle Date:	January 29, 2019
Release Date:	May 2, 2019

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