



reviews of our current releases – March 2019

General

- ["Field Blends Provide Consistency"](#) | Press Democrat | Dan Berger | January 2019
- ["California's David Ramey Understands That It's All About Making Delicious Wine"](#) | Grape Collective | Lisa Denning | May 2018
- ["Berger on wine: Parallel Brands Allow Room To Grow"](#) | Press Democrat | Dan Berger | March 2018
- ["Here's Why Underdog Lodi Grapes Are Challenging the Status Quo"](#) | Wine Enthusiast | Jim Gordon | December 2017

2016 sidebar sauvignon blanc, ritchie vineyard, russian river valley –

- [Wine Enthusiast](#) | Virginie Boone | June 2018
 - Aged in concrete, this 'wow' of a wine is nuanced in nutty almond, Meyer lemon and crisp grapefruit. Sleek and smooth, it features bright focused acidity that complements the complex savory fruit and hints of lemongrass and ginger. | *93pts* | **Editors' Choice**
- [Jeb Dunnuck](#) | June 2018
 - More grassy and green, with notes of green citrus, mint, and ample minerality, the 2016 Sauvignon Blanc Ritchie Vineyard is Loire-like and has a pure, racy, chiseled feel on the palate. It's balanced, crisp, and perfectly balanced, and should keep for 2-4 years. | *91 pts*
- [Wine Spectator](#) | MaryAnn Worobiec | May 31, 2018
 - Offers lemon-lime flavors at the core, with green papaya and fresh ginger notes. Crisp acidity keeps everything in focus. Shows plenty of verve and intensity on the long finish. Drink now. | *90 pts*
- [D Magazine](#) | Hayley Hamilton Cogill | May 2018
 - David Ramey's Sidebar Ritchie Vineyard Sauvignon Blanc showcases this historic vineyard, highlighting the intense minerality of the Sonoma soils, for a bold wine with character not often found in Sauvignon Blanc.
- [vinous](#) | Antonio Galloni | April 2018
 - The 2016 Sauvignon Blanc Ritchie Vineyard offers lovely depth and textural resonance in its orchard fruit, mint, floral and chamomile notes. Here, too, David Ramey is going for a style of Sauvignon Blanc that emphasizes texture and mouthfeel over more varietal flavors. Ritchie has the pedigree to pull that off nicely. | *90pts*
- [Palm Beach Daily News](#) | Paul Coombs | April 2018 | Perfect Pairings a matter of taste
 - Our second white wine was the 2016 Sidebar Sauvignon Blanc from Russian River Valley, Sonoma County. Winemaker David Ramey of Ramey Wine Cellars launched Sidebar Cellars in 2014. The grapes were sourced from 44-year-old vines in the Ritchie Vineyard. The wine, released this month, had a typical lime zest and fresh asparagus nose enhanced by a strong mineral backbone in the palate. A fresh, easy-drinking wine, it brought out the freshness of the salmon.

2018 sidebar kerner, mokelumne river, lodi –

- [Mokelumne Glen Vineyards: Once an Experiment, Now a Lodi Landmark](#) | The Drinks Business | Julie Albin | December 2018
- [Aspen Daily News](#) | Drew Stofflet | Sidebar Cellars Kerner and Thanksgiving Reflections | November 2018

2016 sidebar old vine zinfandel, russian river valley –

- [Wine Enthusiast](#) | Virginie Boone | November 2018
 - This is from the Alegria Vineyard, originally planted in 1890 and then partially replanted in 1950. It blends within 10% Alicante, 10% Petite Sirah and 2% of a dozen other varieties found in the field. Burly, dusty tobacco is accented in cedar notes and graphite, with powerful concentration and structure at its core. | *91 pts*
- [Faces of Zin – Four takes on four Zinfandel wines](#) | Bohemia | James Knight | June 13, 2018
 - *Zin has backup.* Although the Sidebar Cellars 2016 Russian River Valley Zinfandel (\$28) contains less Zin than the previous vintage, which was labeled as a “red blend,” with 78 percent it makes the varietal cut (75 percent is required by law), so why not? Part of the charm, but also the intangible value, of old-vine Zinfandel plantings is that they include a seemingly random hodgepodge of accessory vines. This wine comes from a vineyard originally planted in 1890, and contains Petite Sirah, a common companion to Zinfandel, along with some real outliers like Beclan, Peloursin, Plavac Mali, Palomino and Monbadon. An unusually large fraction of Alicante Bouschet contributes color to this wine, which seems also aromatic of purple ink, along with oily oak, Graham cracker and chocolate biscuit. Why all of those other grapes? Well, in this wine the combination makes for a palate-coating yet surprisingly supple mix of blackcurrant and boysenberry liqueur flavors—maybe those forefathers knew best, after all.
- [Capital Gazette](#) | Tom Marquardt | May 2018
 - Fourteen other varieties — mostly alicante and petite sirah — are blended with zinfandel in this exotic melangé of flavors. Rich, lush mouthfeel with copious dark red fruit flavors.
- [Bigger Than Your Head](#) | Fredric Koepfel | May 2018
 - Wine of the Day
- [D Magazine](#) | Hayley Hamilton Cogill | May 2018
 - Juicy, fruit-forward, peppery and spicy, Zinfandel is the perfect red wine for your summer grilling fare. Here are a few to consider this season. (Some were sent for editorial consideration.) Russian River’s historic Alegria Vineyard, provides fruit up to 125 years old for David Ramey to blend Zinfandel with a touch of Alicante and Petite Sirah in his Sidebar Cellars Old Vine Zinfandel (previously known as the Sidebar Red Field Blend) (\$28). Textured and concentrated, with classic, juicy black fruit flavors without overpowering the palate.