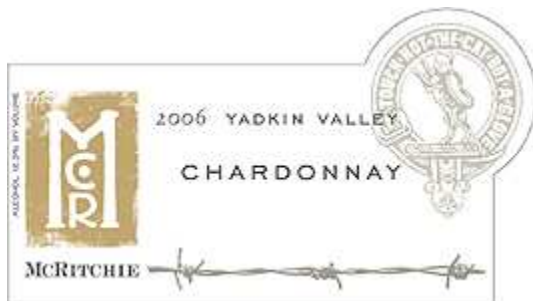


WINE RECOMMENDATION

**McRitchie Vineyards****2006 Chardonnay (unoaked)
(Yadkin Valley)**

Sean McRitchie grew up in the Willamette Valley of Oregon, where his father was involved in the wine business during Oregon's pioneering years. Sean likes the challenge of the Piedmont region of North Carolina. "I like being here, being involved with the possibilities of this new region. I'm intrigued with the quality of fruit that is possible here—not only with grapes but with other fruits."

McRitchie Winery & Ciderworks produces outstanding hard cider from mountain-grown apples such as Pink Lady, grown in orchards on Brushy Mountain. McRitchie also produces a very popular semi-sparkling Niagara. I was most impressed with McRitchie's young, stainless steel-fermented Chardonnay 2006, wonderfully clean and crisp, well-balanced with appealing citrus flavors, a superb example of the elegance and balance possible in the Piedmont region of central North Carolina. This wine is attractive now but will be even better with another 9-12 months in bottle.

Reviewed July 14, 2007 by [Barbara Ensrud](#).

THE WINE

Winery: [McRitchie Vineyards](#)
Vintage: 2006
Wine: Chardonnay (unoaked)
Appellation: [Yadkin Valley](#)
Grape: [Chardonnay](#)
Price: \$14.00

THE REVIEWER**Barbara Ensrud**

Barbara Ensrud has been writing about and reviewing wines since 1979, with a nationally syndicated column for the *New York Daily News* and numerous other publications. Her "no numbers" approach to evaluating wine is simple: how does it taste – on its own, as well as with particular foods? Is it good value, whether \$10 or \$210? Does it measure up in terms of varietal character and regional identity? ...*"When I taste a good wine, I can't wait to share it with fellow wine lovers."*