

RIDGE 2021 LYTTON SPRINGS

72% ZINFANDEL, 15% PETITE SIRAH, 9% CARIGNANE, 2% ALICANTE BOUSCHET, 1% CINSAUT, 1% COUNOISE (organically grown)
DRY CREEK VALLEY 14.3% ALCOHOL BY VOLUME

HISTORY

In 1972, Ridge made its first Lytton Springs from vines planted on the eastern half of the vineyard at the turn of the century. Both the eastern and western portions of the vineyard were purchased in the early 1990s, (In the 1870s, under "Captain" William Litton's ownership, the two were part of one property; spelling evolved to "Lytton" by 1903.) The vineyard is planted to zinfandel and its principal complementary varieties.

FIRST RIDGE LYTTON SPRINGS 1972

VINTAGE

Rainfall: 14 inches (below normal)

Bloom: Early May

Weather: A dry winter and spring stressed the vines, limiting yields and concentrating flavors.

Harvest Dates: 1 September - 5 October

Grapes: Average Brix 24.7°

WINEMAKING & TECHNICAL DATA

Fermentation: Full crush; 100% Natural primary and secondary.

Barrels: 100% air-dried American oak barrels (17% new; 3% one-year-old; 10% two-year-old, 10% three-year-old, 65% five-plus-year-old).

Aging: Sixteen months in barrel

pH: 3.58

TA: 5.9 g/L

Hand-harvested, organically grown, estate grapes; destemmed and crushed; fermented on the native yeasts, followed by full malolactic on the naturally occurring bacteria; oak from barrel aging; minimum effective sulfur for this wine (35 ppm at crush, 65.3 ppm over the course of aging); pad filtered at bottling. In keeping with our philosophy of minimal intervention, this is the sum of our actions.



RIDGE
VINEYARDS

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Exceptional single-vineyard wines since 1962.

2021 Lytton Springs, bottled January 2023

A dry winter left the vines struggling to find water. This reduced fruit set in all varieties, especially zinfandel. Thirty-eight parcels were harvested from September first to October fifth and fermented separately. Thirty-four were selected, including vines planted in 1901 and eighty-year-old counoise inter-planted with cinsaut. Enjoyable now, this beautiful, complex wine will continue to develop over the next ten years and beyond. SR (11/22)



SITE

Lytton Springs Vineyard is located on the bench and hills separating Dry Creek and Alexander Valleys, just north of Healdsburg, Sonoma County.

Soils: Varied, with a predominance of gravelly clay; gravelly clay loam on hillsides.

Age of Vines: Lytton East: zinfandel, petite sirah, and carignane planted 1901 (32 acres) and 1910 (11 acres); zinfandel and petite sirah, planted 1997-1998 (5 acres), Lytton West: zinfandel, petite sirah, carignane, re-planted 1953-1968 (26 acres); zinfandel and petite sirah, planted 1980's (2.5 acres); zinfandel and petite sirah planted in 1990's (42.8 acres); zinfandel, petite sirah, and carignane, in 2000's (60 acres).

Training: Head trained (no trellis) spur pruned.

Yields: 1.5 tons per acre

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