

# RIDGE 2006

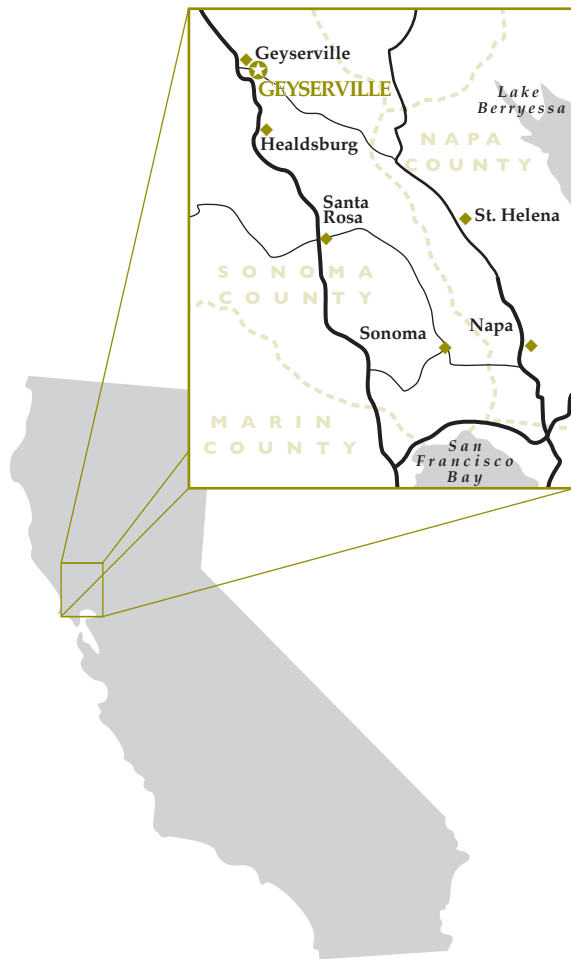
## CALIFORNIA

### GEYSERVILLE®

**2006 Geyserville Vineyard, bottled January 2008**  
Winter rains continued into late March, sustaining the vines through summer. A full crop—comparable to 2005—was thinned to intensify flavors. In September, as fog off the Pacific persisted, we dropped more clusters to eliminate damage to the fruit. Each parcel fermented separately on natural yeasts. Color and tannin extracted easily; we pressed at near-dryness after seven days. The uninoculated secondary finished within three weeks. Assemblage began October 10, when all the mixed-varietal parcels and one of petite sirah were combined. Based on further tastings, four zinfandel blocks were added, then two century-old carignane blocks for their opulence and complexity. At the end of June, a last rich, well-structured zinfandel lot completed assemblage. After fourteen months in barrel, the wine is fully integrated. Elegant tannins and intense fruit make it enjoyable now; it will be best over the next eight to ten years. *EB (11/07)*

70% ZINFANDEL, 18% CARIGNANE,  
10% PETITE SIRAH, 2% MATARO

14.6% alcohol by volume



#### History

Ridge has made the Geyserville as a single-site zinfandel in every year since 1966. The grapes are grown in three adjoining vineyards on a defined stretch of gravelly soil approximately one-and-a-quarter miles long and a half-mile wide.

#### Vintage

**Harvest Dates** 14 September - 16 October

**Grapes** Average Brix 24.6°

**Fermentation** Natural primary and secondary; limited use of submerged cap, limited pump-overs. Pressed at seven days.

**Aging** 100% air-dried american oak barrels (17% new, 39% one and two years, 46% three to six years old)

**Time in Barrel** Fourteen months

#### Vineyard

##### First RIDGE

**Geyserville** 1966

**Location** Western edge of Alexander Valley, Sonoma County.

**Soils** Gravelly loam

**Age of Vines** Youngest 10 years; oldest over 120 years; sixty percent 40 years or older.

**Training** Head trained (no trellis), spur pruned.

**Yields** One to three tons per acre

#### Growing Season

**Rainfall** Fifty-five inches (above average); late spring/early summer rains

**Bloom** Mid May; set above average.

**Weather** Wet spring and warm, dry summer; rain at the end of harvest.