

RIDGE 2013 LYTTON ESTATE® PETITE SIRAH

DRY CREEK VALLEY 97% PETITE SIRAH, 3% ZINFANDEL
SONOMA COUNTY 13.9% ALCOHOL BY VOLUME

HISTORY

The oldest petite sirah vines on our Lytton Estate were planted in 1901 and the youngest in 2008. We made our first wine from the property in 1972 and until 2002 when we bottled portions of the petite sirah as a separate wine for a limited release, it had always been included in the Lytton Springs Zinfandel. In 2003 we made another limited release and in 2009 our first national release.

FIRST RIDGE LYTTON ESTATE PETITE SIRAH 2002

GROWING SEASON

Rainfall: Twenty-four to thirty inches (below average)

Bloom: Mid-May

Weather: Warm spring and early summer followed by cooler weather that slowed ripening.

VINTAGE

Harvest Dates: 4 -12 September

Grapes: Average Brix 24.7°

Fermentation: Natural primary and secondary; limited pump-overs to once daily and kept free run and press wines separate; pressed at seven days.

Barrels: 100% air-dried american oak barrels (25% new, 40% one and two years old, 35% three and four years old).

Aging: Sixteen months in barrel

WINEMAKING

Hand harvested, sustainably grown, estate grapes; destemmed and partially crushed; fermented on the native yeasts, followed by full malolactic on the naturally-occurring bacteria; 0.43 g/L tartaric acid added; oak from barrel aging; minimum effective sulfur for this wine (35 ppm at crush; 180 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.



2013 Petite Sirah, Lytton Estate, bottled 3/15

Warm weather through the growing season and aggressive thinning led to early ripening, and, atypically, harvesting petite sirah before zinfandel. To manage the extra concentration of lower yields, we limited pump overs, and kept press wines separate. This is one of the most structured petite sirahs we have made from Lytton Estate. Sixteen months in American oak added spice and complexity to the dark, layered fruit. Full bodied but balanced, the wine will develop over the next ten years. JO (12/14)



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

Soils: Gravelly clay loam

Vines: Petite sirah planted 1901 to 1998 at Lytton East (12 acres) and 1987 to 2008 at Lytton West (20.4 acres). 12 acres of grapes from Lytton West were used for this wine.

Training: Head trained (no trellis), spurpruned.

Yields: 1.5 tons per acre old vines; 3+ tons per acre young vines

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