97 Geyserville Vineyard, bottled January 99

Growers will remember this year fondly for its exceptionally abundant yields, following two very small vintages. Another characteristic of the 1997 harvest is that all the grapes seemed to ripen at the same moment. Because of the time required for picking, this resulted in very rich, full wines. We had dropped half the crop on the younger vines, and fifteen percent on the older vines, to ensure the intensity we seek. Structure is particularly solid; firm acidity adds elegance and definition to the ripe fruit. This Geyserville is a fine example from a great decade. It will be at its best over the next five to six years. PD (11/98)

Since 1962, Ridge has championed single-vineyard winemaking, searching California for those rare vineyards where climate, soil, and varietal are ideally matched. Using traditional methods and minimal handling, we strive to produce exceptional wines from superior and distinctive fruit. For information on the wines, or visiting our Monte Bello and Sonoma County wineries, call (408) 867-3233.

(R) REGISTERED TRADEMARK

RIDGE **CALIFORNIA GEYSERVILLE®**

GEYSERVILLE VINEYARD: 74% ZINFANDEL, 15% CARIGNANE, 10% PETITE SIRAH, 1% MATARO SONOMA COUNTY ALCOHOL 14.9% BY VOLUM ALCOHOL 14.9% BY VOLUME PRODUCED AND BOTTLED BY RIDGE VINEYARDS 17100 MONTE BELLO ROAD, BOX 1810, CUPERTINO, CA 95015