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98 Lytton Springs Vineyard, bottled 12/99

El Niño delayed the 1998 growing season by an entire month; late August brought an unseasonably early rain and some water damage in the clusters. We opened the vines to light and air, and thinned repeatedly over the next forty days as soon as any damaged fruit appeared. Aided by fine weather, we had clean, very ripe grapes at harvest. Intense fruit, a rich structure, and firm tannins characterize this lovely vintage, which will be at its best over the next five to six years. Alas, the severe thinning has resulted in significantly smaller quantities than usual.

PD (11/99)

Since 1962, Ridge has championed single-vine-yard winemaking, searching for great vineyards where climate, soil, and varietal are ideally matched. Using traditional methods and minimal handling, we strive to produce wines that reflect their site. For more information, or to visit the wineries, please contact us.

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Www.ridgewine.com

RIDGE 1998 CALIFORNIA LYTTON SPRINGS®

77% ZINFANDEL IN A VINEYARD BLEND WITH 16% PETITE SIRAH, 2% CARIGNANE, 4% MATARO, AND 1% ALICANTE BOUSCHET DRY CREEK VALLEY

ALCOHOL 14.3% BY VOLUME
PRODUCED AND BOTTLED BY RIDGE VINEYARDS, INC. BW 4488
17100 MONTE BELLO ROAD, BOX 1810, CUPERTINO, CALIFORNIA 95015