

RIDGE 2000

CALIFORNIA

MONTE BELLO®

18 Barrels Produced

**2000 Monte Bello, bottled January 2002**

This is the twenty-fifth Monte Bello Chardonnay produced since 1962. The grapes are from our estate vineyards on Monte Bello Ridge in California's Santa Cruz Mountains. After natural primary and secondary fermentations in barrel, three parcels—representing only fourteen percent of the estate chardonnay—were selected for this Monte Bello. The three were racked off their lees in early August, combined, and returned to barrel for three months of settling. Aged for a total of fourteen months—eighty percent in air-dried american oak, twenty percent in french—this superb wine was bottled, unfiltered, in early January. It reflects the cool climate and fractured-limestone sub-soils of its distinctive site, and is one of the finest white wines Ridge has produced. Enjoyable now, it will be at its best with one to five years of bottle age. PD (11/01)

Three separate chardonnays are made from vineyards on the ridge: Monte Bello, Santa Cruz Mountains, and Coast Range. We select the most intense—and most typical of Monte Bello's distinct character—for the first. The second is similarly structured and complex, but may include fruit from vineyards neighboring our own. The third is softest, and most immediately accessible.

408.867.3233

750 mL

® REGISTERED TRADEMARK  
www.ridgewine.com

**100% CHARDONNAY MONTE BELLO ESTATE VINEYARD**  
**SANTA CRUZ MOUNTAINS ALCOHOL 14.7% BY VOLUME**  
GROWN, PRODUCED & BOTTLED BY RIDGE VINEYARDS BW 4488  
17100 MONTE BELLO ROAD, P. O. BOX 1810, CUPERTINO, CA 95015

GOVERNMENT WARNING: (1) ACCORDING TO THE SURGEON GENERAL, WOMEN SHOULD NOT DRINK ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES DURING PREGNANCY BECAUSE OF THE RISK OF BIRTH DEFECTS. (2) CONSUMPTION OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES IMPAIRS YOUR ABILITY TO DRIVE A CAR OR OPERATE MACHINERY, AND MAY CAUSE HEALTH PROBLEMS. CONTAINS SULFITES