

RIDGE 2003
CALIFORNIA
CHARDONNAY
MONTE BELLO®

100% CHARDONNAY, MONTE BELLO ESTATE VINEYARD
SANTA CRUZ MOUNTAINS 14.6% ALCOHOL BY VOLUME
PRODUCED AND BOTTLED BY RIDGE VINEYARDS, INC.
17100 MONTE BELLO ROAD, CUPERTINO, CALIFORNIA 95015

17 Barrels Produced

2003 Chardonnay, Monte Bello, bottled Jan 2005
Ridge made its first Monte Bello Chardonnay in 1962. Not every vintage produces a Monte Bello—the last was in 2000. Warm late winter weather gave the vines an early start; a cold, unsettled spring slowed growth. By mid-September the more-stressed vines had developed full flavor, followed in mid-October by those with larger ground-water reserves. Whole cluster pressed and barrel fermented for two months on their natural yeasts, the wines took ten more months in barrel to complete a natural malolactic. This superb chardonnay is comprised of five barrels from the stressed lots, and twelve from Middle Block. Clarity was achieved by racking and settling, first at twelve months, and again when the wine was bottled, unfiltered, at fifteen months. A classic Monte Bello, it has the firm acid and intense, complex fruit of the cool Santa Cruz Mountains region. It will continue to develop beautifully through the decade.

PD/EB (11/04)

® REGISTERED TRADEMARK

750 mL
408.867.3233

Product of USA
www.ridgevine.com

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 7

