

**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.

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**Monte Bello Vineyard**  
**Yields, Estate Merlot Parcels:**  
**25 tons from 13 acres**

**2009 Estate Merlot, bottled June 2011**

Ridge made a merlot from the Monte Bello vineyard in 1974, 1976, and from 1991 to 1997; this is our first bottling since then. In the excellent 2009 vintage, the Casa Grande parcel and the six-acre merlot section of 25 Acre were fermented separately, and combined for this limited release. Quarterly racking off the lees clarified the wine naturally, and maintained its freshness. Intense fruit allowed the use of seventy-five percent new american oak barrels, adding hints of spice. A variety known for its elegance, this approachable merlot will be enjoyable over the next decade. EB (3/11)

Limestone sub-soils, cool climate, low yields, and natural fermentations have produced fifty vintages of exceptionally fine wines. Great wines have always been determined by their site—by nature, not by man. PD (2011)

Product of USA 750 mL  
408.867.3233 [www.ridgewine.com](http://www.ridgewine.com)

**RIDGE ESTATE**

**MERLOT**

**2009**

**100% MERLOT MONTE BELLO VINEYARD**  
**SANTA CRUZ MOUNTAINS** 14.2% ALCOHOL BY VOLUME  
GROWN, PRODUCED AND BOTTLED BY RIDGE VINEYARDS  
18100 MONTE BELLO ROAD, CUPERTINO, CALIFORNIA 95014