

# RIDGE 2015 LYTTON ESTATE® PETITE SIRAH

DRY CREEK VALLEY  
SONOMA COUNTY

100% PETITE SIRAH  
13.0% ALCOHOL BY VOLUME

## HISTORY

The oldest petite sirah vines on our Lytton Estate were planted in 1901 and the youngest in 2008. We made our first wine from the property in 1972 and until 2002 when we bottled portions of the petite sirah as a separate wine for a limited release, it had always been included in the Lytton Springs Zinfandel. In 2003 we made another limited release and in 2009 our first national release.

## FIRST RIDGE LYTTON ESTATE PETITE SIRAH 2002

## GROWING SEASON

Rainfall: 33.2 inches (just below normal)

Bloom: Mid-May

Weather: Very wet December, followed by the driest January on record (0.05"). Cool, wet, late spring helped with rainfall totals, but reduced our crop across all varieties. Harvest started early (mid-August) and finished quickly.

## VINTAGE

Harvest Dates: 21 August – 12 September

Grapes: Average Brix 23.0°

Fermentation: Natural primary and secondary; limited pump-overs to once daily; pressed at nine days.

Barrels: 100% air-dried american oak barrels (20% new, 40% one and two years old, 40% three, four and five years old).

Aging: Twelve months in barrel

## WINEMAKING

Hand-harvested, sustainably grown, estate grapes; destemmed and partially crushed; fermented on the native yeasts, followed by full malolactic on the naturally-occurring bacteria; oak from barrel aging; minimum effective sulfur for this wine (35 ppm at crush; 86 ppm over the course of aging); pad filtered at bottling. In keeping with our philosophy of minimal intervention, this is the sum of our actions.



*2015 Petite Sirah, bottled December 2016*  
An early spring and warm summer advanced ripening with the petite sirah harvest starting August 21. Low yields and small clusters concentrated tannin and color. To manage extraction, we fermented the grapes as whole berries, cooler and maceration averaged five days. After malolactic the wine aged in american oak for twelve months. This full-bodied, beautifully balanced wine can be enjoyed over the next twenty years.  
JO (10/16)



Lytton Estate Vineyard is located in the hills and bench land separating Dry Creek and Alexander Valleys, just north of Healdsburg, Sonoma County.

Soils: Gravelly clay loam

Vines: Petite Sirah planted 1901 to 1998 at Lytton East (12 acres) and 1987 to 2008 at Lytton West (20.4 acres). 12 acres of grapes from Lytton West were used for this wine.

Training: Head trained (no trellis), spurpruned.

Yields: 1.5 tons per acre old vines; 3+ tons per acre young vines

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