

RIDGE 2016 LYTTON ESTATE® PETITE SIRAH

DRY CREEK VALLEY
SONOMA COUNTY

100% PETITE SIRAH
13.8% 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

VINTAGE

Rainfall: 38 inches

Bloom: Mid-May

Weather: A wet December and January help ease the drought which emphatically ended in March. Cool weather in April reduced our crop a bit. Harvest started early September and finished mid-month.

Harvest Dates: 5 - 19 September

Grapes: Average Brix 23.8°

WINEMAKING

Fermentation: Whole berry fermentation. Natural primary and secondary; limited pump-overs to once daily; pressed at seven days.

Barrels: 100% air-dried american oak barrels (10% new, 45% one and two years old, 45% three and four years old).

Aging: Twelve months in barrel

Hand-harvested, sustainably grown, estate grapes; destemmed, whole berry 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; 143 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.



2016 Petite Sirah, bottled December 2017
Mild August weather created ideal ripening conditions for the petite sirah at Lytton West. The six vineyard blocks were fermented separately for seven days. We selected two hillside parcels to bring depth and texture to the young vines block. After twelve months of barrel aging, tannins have integrated and the wine is beginning to soften. This exemplary petite sirah will develop over the next ten years. JO (8/17)



SITE

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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VINEYARDS

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