



BUCHIGNANI RANCH



MONTE BELLO

High atop the Santa Cruz Mountains, 2,300 feet above Silicon Valley, the historic winery is dedicated to the production of Bordeaux varieties and chardonnay.



VISIT

LYTTON SPRINGS

Located just north of Healdsburg in Dry Creek Valley, the heart of zinfandel country, the winery is constructed of straw bales and earthen plaster. Surrounded by century-old vines, the winery produces more than 70% of its own electricity through solar power.

HISTORY Stan Buchignani's ranch is located on Dutcher Creek Road, in the hills on the far western edge of the Alexander Valley appellation. The majority of the vineyard's carignane was planted in the 1940s. Stan's grandfather, Dominico Cerruti, planted the first block in 1927; his father, Dino, planted the last in the early 1950s. The vineyard's climate bears a strong resemblance to that of upper Dry Creek Valley three miles to the south, where days are warm. Fog, which tends to hang low in the valley, burns off sooner in the hills. Carignane from Buchignani is complex, its fine structure much like that of a field-blend zinfandel.

LOCATION Northwestern edge of the Alexander Valley appellation, in the hills bordering upper Dry Creek Valley appellation.

GRAPE VARIETIES 13.2 acres of carignane, 5.7 acres of zinfandel, 1.3 acres of mixed zinfandel and carignane.

SOILS Benchland: clay loam with stones and gravel, highly weathered, limited topsoil. Front of ranch: gray gravelly clay loam.

TRAINING & YIELDS Head trained (no trellis), spur pruned. 2-3 tons per acre.



ORDER

SPRING SELECTIONS	RETAIL	MEMBER	CASE (12+)
2013 BUCHIGNANI ZINFANDEL	\$33.00	\$29.70	\$28.05
2014 MAZZONI HOME RANCH	\$33.00	\$29.70	\$28.05
2016 BUCHIGNANI CARIGNANE	\$31.00	\$27.90	\$26.35
2015 SYRAH GRENACHE MATARO	\$37.00	\$33.30	\$31.45

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SPRING 2018

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RIDGE 2013 BUCHIGNANI RANCH ZINFANDEL



88% ZINFANDEL
12% CARIGNANE

Winemaker's Notes: A second dry winter brought early budbreak for the seventy-year-old vines on Buchignani Ranch. The grapes were crushed to small tanks—half of them fitted with grids to hold the skins submerged. Fermentations finished in eleven days. After uninoculated malolactic, we chose Top and House blocks for their focused fruit, integrated tannins, and lively acid. In barrel, the wine was racked off its lees quarterly to clarify naturally. This elegant, spicy zinfandel, enjoyable now, will be at its best over the next five to six years. JO (9/14)

RIDGE 2014 MAZZONI HOME RANCH



62% ZINFANDEL
36% CARIGNANE
2% PETITE SIRAH

Winemaker's Notes: In a small valley north of Geyserville, these 19th-century, non-irrigated vines produced abundantly despite a third year of drought. Harvested in late August, the grapes fermented dry in seven days. After malolactic, we tasted the six parcels; each showed clear vineyard character, and we combined them. To retain elegance, we avoided new oak, aging the wine in three- to six-year-old barrels. It will be most enjoyable over the next five to seven years. EB (11/15)

RIDGE 2016 BUCHIGNANI RANCH CARIGNANE

100% HILLSIDE GROWN,
OLD VINE CARIGNANE

Winemaker's Notes: A hot, dry summer provided ideal conditions for these old carignane vines. All five blocks were harvested the first two weeks of September. Following malolactic, we tasted and selected the Front, Top, and House blocks for their richness and firm acidity. This outstanding carignane is layered with dark fruit, mineral, and spice. Enjoyable now, it will continue to develop over the next five years. JO (6/17)



OPTIONAL SHIPMENT

RIDGE 2015 SYRAH GRENACHE MATARO

35% SYRAH
23% GRENACHE
42% MATARO

Winemaker's Notes: For our second release of this Rhône-style varietal blend, we selected grapes from three closely planted parcels at our Lytton West vineyard. The grapes were destemmed, but left to ferment as whole berries to moderate tannins and accentuate fruit. Syrah adds color and dark fruit while mataro and grenache contribute structure and aroma. Enjoyable on release, this wine will continue to evolve for another five to six years. JO (8/16)