

RIDGE 2017

PAGANI RANCH

ZINFANDEL

84% ZINFANDEL, 7% PETITE SIRAH, 7% ALICANTE BOUSCHET,
2% MATARO SONOMA VALLEY 14.6% ALCOHOL BY VOLUME

HISTORY

Since 1991, Ridge has made zinfandel from the Pagani vineyard on the western side of Sonoma Valley. The majority of the vineyard was planted ninety to one hundred twenty years ago; portions of it were replanted between 2013—2018. The vineyard is meticulously tended by a quality-conscious family who has worked the land for four generations. An average site would have been abandoned during the thirteen years of Prohibition, or during the Depression. Its long survival is proof of its merit.

FIRST RIDGE PAGANI RANCH: 1991

VINTAGE

Rainfall: Over 60 inches

Bloom: Mid-May

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

Harvest Dates: 3-7 September

Grapes: Average Brix 25.5°

WINEMAKING

Fermentation: Grapes destemmed and crushed. Natural primary and natural secondary (malolactic) fermentations; pumped over a floating cap and pressed at fourteen days.

Barrels: 100% air-dried american oak barrels (10% new, 25% one and two years old and 65% three, four, and five years old).

Aging: Eleven months in barrel

Pagani Ranch grapes; hand-harvested; destemmed and 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, 149 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.

2017 Pagani Ranch, bottled Nov 2018
Heavy winter rains and a warm spring created ideal growing conditions. To even ripening, we dropped a third of the crop in the young vines. Always the last zinfandel vineyard we harvest, 2017 was no exception. We picked the young vines October 3rd and the old vines four days later. Incredible concentration from the old vines and the bright acidity typical of this vineyard makes this wine enjoyable over the next ten years.

JO (8/18)



SITE

Pagani Ranch Vineyard is located in Sonoma Valley, Sonoma County.

Elevation: 100 - 150'

Soils: Gravelly clay loam

Vines: Zinfandel, interplanted with minor amounts of petite sirah, carignane and alicante, thirty acres planted from 1896 to 1922. Six acres replanted to zinfandel and petite sirah in 2013.

Training: Head trained, (no trellis)

Yields: 2.8 tons per acre



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VINEYARDS

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