RIDGE2019THREE VALLEYSSONOMA COUNTY

73% ZINFANDEL, 13% PETITE SIRAH, 10% CARIGNANE, 3% MATARO,1% ALICANTE BOUSCHET14.5% ALCOHOL BY VOLUME

HISTORY

The history of the Ridge Three Valleys began with the release of the 2001. The wine contains grapes from a number of Sonoma vineyards—this year, ten. We take great care in selecting the fruit, which is hand-harvested, then crushed and fermented on its native yeast and naturally occurring malolactic bacteria at both Monte Bello and Lytton Springs wineries. Unlike our single-vineyard wines, which reflect the distinctive character of each site, Three Valleys represents the blending of vineyards—winemaking—at its finest. Zinfandel determines the wine's varietal character; old-vine carignane contributes bright fruit and acidity; petite sirah spice, depth of color, and firm tannins.

FIRST RIDGE THREE VALLEYS: 2001

GROWING SEASON

Rainfall: 57.5" (above average)

Bloom: May

Weather: Total rainfall for the season was over 57.5" at Geyserville – almost double our usual amounts. The vines responded with bountiful yields of great quality. Harvest Dates: 4 September – 19 October Grapes: Average Brix 24.3°

WINEMAKING & TECHNICAL DATA

Fermentation: No inoculation; natural primary and secondary. Grapes fully crushed; pressed at eight days.

Barrels: 100% air-dried American oak barrels (15% new, 20% one-year-old, 15% three-year-old, 25% four-year-old, and 25% five-year-old). Aging: Eleven months in barrel pH: 3.77

TA: 6.35 g/L

Hand-harvested grapes, destemmed and crushed; fermented on the native yeasts followed by a full malolactic on the natural-occurring bacteria; a total of 0.25 grams/liter tartaric acid; oak from barrel aging; minimum effective sulfur for this wine (35ppm at crush, 121ppm over the course of aging); membrane sterile filtered at bottling. In keeping with our philosophy of minimal intervention, this is the sum of our actions.



RIDGE VINEYARDS

408.867.3233 www.ridgewine.com Exceptional single-vineyard wines since 1962.

2019 Three Valleys, bottled Dec 2020

Rain in late March coupled with warm spring weather created ideal growing conditions. The vines responded with a full crop and mild summer weather allowed for slow, even ripening. Aging in American oak complements the plentiful fruit in the wine while petite sirah provides added richness and structure. Enjoyable upon release, this zinfandel based wine will be at its best over the next five years. JO/EB (8/20)





SITE

Five vineyards in Alexander Valley, four in Dry Creek Valley, and one in Sonoma Valley.

Soils: Varied, with a predominance of gravelly loam; gravelly clay loam on hillsides.

Age of Vines: Approximately 5% fifty- to one- hundred-years-old, 60% thirty-five to forty-five-years, 35% ten- to thirty-years-old.

Training: Head trained (no trellis), spur pruned.

Yields: 2 to 5 tons per acre

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