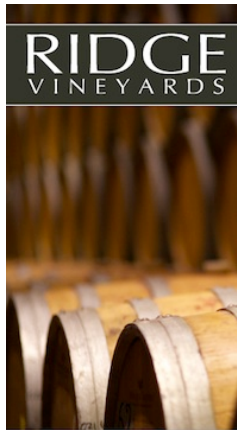


Wicked Cellars Tasting Notes
Saturday, October 20th, 4:00 to 7:00 pm
Our October Art Walk Tasting with
Ridge Vineyards and
The Music of Joachim Nordenssen!

\$10 Tasting Fee

This Saturday from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. is our October Art Walk Tasting event featuring the art of **Shari Osti** and the African masks and statues of collector **Michael Berg**. It's also a celebration of Wicked Cellars' two years under the guidance of Ritch and Marlies and the shop's 15th birthday!

To celebrate we'll be pouring the fabulous wines of California's Ridge Vineyards and enjoying the music of very popular Joachim Nordenssen, performing between 4 and 7 p.m.



The history of Ridge Vineyards began in 1885, when Osea Perrone, a doctor and prominent member of San Francisco's Italian community, bought 180 acres near the top of Monte Bello Ridge in California's Santa Cruz Mountains. He terraced the slopes, planted vineyards and built the limestone Monte Bello Winery, producing the first vintage under that name in 1892. This unique cellar, restored and built into the mountainside on three levels, is Ridge's production facility today.

Winemaker and CEO, Paul Draper, joined Ridge in 1969. A Stanford graduate in philosophy recently returned from setting up a winery in Chile's coastal range, he was a practical winemaker, not an enologist. His knowledge of fine wines and traditional methods complemented the "hands off" approach pioneered at Ridge, where they are committed to sustainability, and to organic certification of their vineyards.

Ridge bases its grape-growing in each vineyard on long experience, while employing the most recent advances in vineyard practice. In the cellar, winemaking begins with a respect for the natural process that transforms grapes into wine, and for the idea of guiding that process with minimal intervention. With great vineyards that produce high-quality grapes of distinct and individual character, this approach is not only environmentally and socially responsible; it's also the best way to consistently make fine wine.

2010 Ridge Lytton Springs Red Wine \$39.99

"The 2010 Lytton Springs possesses striking aromatics that meld into sweet dark plums and black cherries. The Lytton Springs shows more minerality and verve than the

Geyserville, and appears to have handled the heat spikes of the year quite a bit better. The blend is 66% Zinfandel, 24% Petite Sirah, 6% Carignane and 4% Mourvèdre. Anticipated maturity: 2020-2030. 92-94 points.” -**Antonio Galloni, Wine Advocate (196)**

2009 Ridge Merlot \$42.99

Ridge first made Merlot in 1974 from a small section on Monte Bello Ridge at an elevation of 2600'. The cool microclimate and limestone sub-soils there produce Merlot with great structure, full body, and complex dark fruit character.

“Garnet color. Wonderfully scented cherry fruit, vanilla bean, sweet caramel toasted oak. Very drinkable. Bright cherry fruit, supple tannins, moderately long finish.” -**Eric Baugher (2/12)**

2009 Ridge “Lytton Estate” Dry Creek Valley Petite Sirah, \$32.99



The original Petite Sirah vines at the Lytton Estate were planted back in 1901, and the newest were planted in 1998. The 2009 vintage is the first-ever Lytton Petite Sirah available on a large scale. Raised in a combination of new and used American oak barrels for 15 months, it is pure, structured Petite Sirah with incredibly deep fruit flavors. The tannins are firm now, but given time to integrate and soften in the cellar, it will just get better over the next decade.

2010 Ridge Zinfandel “East Bench” \$29.99

Ridge has made the East Bench as a single-site Zinfandel since 2006. One of their few single-variety wines, the vineyard sits high on top of the bench land that overlooks Dry Creek Valley from the east.

Dark crimson red with opulent aroma of briar fruits, savory spice, clay and mineral earth, the wine offers red and black mixed cherry fruits on entry. It shows a delightful bright acidity, a medium-full body, chalky tannins and a tart plum finish.

2009 - Ridge “Ponzo Vineyard” Zinfandel \$29.99

Bob Ponzo has farmed grapes for Ridge in the Russian River Valley since 1999. His vineyard, on deep gravelly loam soils four and a half miles south of Lytton Springs, provides all of the fruit for this Zinfandel.

Raspberries, rose petal and pepper arrive on the nose. Medium to full bodied, the wine is soft and elegant on the palate, with a fine tannin structure. It finishes with firm acidity and delicious cherry fruit.