

# Ridge Vineyards

Ridge Vineyards Geyserville stands out with its rich fruit profile and elegant structure, a testament to over five decades of winemaking excellence.

**RIDGE**  
VINEYARDS



## Geyserville 2021

California, USA

### Region and Vineyards

The **Ridge Vineyards Geyserville** is sourced from the **Geyserville Vineyard**, located on the western edge of **Alexander Valley** in Sonoma County. The vineyard is renowned for its **gravelly loam soils**, which contribute to the wine's complexity and depth. This site has a rich history, with the oldest vines dating back over 125 years, and sixty percent of the vines are over 50 years old. The vineyard's unique terroir is enhanced by its head-trained, spur-pruned vines, which yield about 1.8 tons per acre.

Alexander Valley's climate, with its dry winters and moderate springs and summers, creates ideal conditions for ripening grapes evenly. This microclimate, combined with the vineyard's historic vines and unique soil composition, imparts a distinctive character to the Geyserville .

### Winemaking

The **Ridge Vineyards Geyserville** is a blend of **76% Zinfandel, 16% Carignane, 6% Petite Sirah, 1% Alicante Bouschet, and 1% Mataro**. The winemaking process emphasizes minimal intervention, using natural primary and secondary (malolactic) fermentations with daily pump-overs.

The wine was aged for 16 months in American oak barrels (68% Appalachian, 20% Kentucky, and 12% Ozark), with 30% new oak, 22% one-year-old, 25% two-year-old, and 23% three-year-old and older barrels. This careful oak regimen enhances the wine's complexity and structure without overpowering its fruit characteristics .

### Tasting Notes

- **Color:** Deep ruby red, reflecting the wine's concentration.
- **Aroma:** The nose reveals abundant fruit aromas, including **blackberries, plums**, and hints of **spice** and **earth**.
- **Palate:** On the palate, the wine is full-bodied and balanced, showcasing flavors of **dark berries, black cherry, and pepper**, with elegant tannins and bright acidity.
- **Finish:** The finish is long and layered, with a refined balance of fruit, tannins, and acidity, promising excellent aging potential.

Alcohol :14,70 %

Composition: 76% Zinfandel, 16% Carignan, 6% Petite Syrah, 1% Alicante Bouschet, 1% Mataro



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### Did you know?

This Geyserville continues a legacy that began in 1966, making it Ridge Vineyards' longest continuous Zinfandel production. This wine consistently reflects the unique vineyard character and the meticulous care taken in its production, from organic farming practices to minimal intervention in winemaking .

### Wine Pairing Ideas

- **Coq au Vin:** The wine's rich fruit and spice notes complement the savory and aromatic flavors of this classic French dish.
- **Boeuf Bourguignon:** The robust structure and elegant tannins of the Geyserville 2021 enhance the deep, slow-cooked flavors of this traditional beef stew.
- **Grilled Sausages with Peppers:** The wine's acidity and fruit profile balance the rich, savory, and slightly spicy flavors of grilled sausages and peppers.
- **Mature Cheddar Cheese:** The bold flavors and fine tannins of the wine pair well with the sharp, creamy texture of mature cheddar cheese.



#### Wines & Spirits (W&S) : 95 Points (2021)

*When Geyserville hits in a great vintage, it takes me back to what I originally loved about California wine. Or to that sense of optimism on a spring day when I first visited San Francisco in 1984, to pitch this magazine on publishing services. I didn't know at the time that I would still be publishing it 40 years later, and I didn't know how much California wine would change. Or how little the style and intention of Geyserville would change. The team at Ridge manages the vineyard's generations of vines to produce complex wines like this perfectly ripe 2021, with its dark, resinous scents of marijuana, its deep layers of rich fruit and the fruitiness of detailed tannins. The fresh, herbal complexity is pretty epic and the richness doesn't stop. What I want from California.*



#### Wine Enthusiast (WE) : 94 Points (2021)

*Toasted oak and wood-smoke aromas lead to equally smoky, spicy flavors of black pepper, blackberry jam and maple in this full-bodied, muscular and firmly tannic wine. Great to pair with barbecue and hatchet throwing. The Zinfandel grapes were supplemented with 16% Carignane, 6% Petite Sirah and 2% Alicante Bouschet. Best from 2025-2035. Cellar Selection*



#### Vinous (Antonio Galloni) (VN) : 94 Points (2021)

*The 2021 Geyserville hits the palate with a burst of dark red/purplish fruit, sweet spice, lavender, chocolate, dried herbs and American oak. I would be in no rush to open the 2021, as it is clearly an infant at this stage. The blend is 76% Zinfandel, 16% Carignane, 6% Petite Syrah and 2% Alicante Bouschet. The 2021 is a powerhouse, that much is pretty clear. (AG) 94+ (8/2023)*

