



2014 CHECKERBOARD NASH CREEK VINEYARD

MARTHA MCCLELLAN, WINEMAKER

“At 2,000 feet in elevation and at the top of the estate is Nash Creek Vineyard, resting just below the ridge on a sloping terrace composed entirely of rhyolite. At this elevation, winter temperatures are colder and extend into early spring, and bud break may take place up to six weeks later than our vineyards below. But, by early summer, Nash Creek Vineyard catches up and surpasses the growth of Aurora and Coyote Ridge vineyards. The lingering daytime heat absorbed by its rocks and the nighttime convective warmth rising from the Napa Valley below provide near round-the-clock grape maturation.

The 2014 Checkerboard Nash Creek is deep and intense, offering aromas of blackberry bush, exotic spices, toasted chocolate and roast espresso. The palate is full bodied and layered with marionberry, boysenberry and plum. Fans of Nash Creek will be rewarded with this classically structured expression offering an opulent finish of pure fruit and minerality that ensures extended cellaring. In its youth, the wine benefits greatly from decanting prior to service.