



2015 CHECKERBOARD NASH CREEK VINEYARD

MARTHA MCCLELLAN, WINEMAKER

“At 2,000 feet in elevation and at the top of the Estate is Nash Creek Vineyard. The blocks rest just below the East ridge of Diamond Mountain on a steeply sloping terrace composed entirely of Rhyolite. At this elevation, winter temperatures are colder and extend into early Spring, and bud break takes place up to six weeks later than our vineyards below. By early Summer, Nash Creek Vineyard catches up and surpasses the growth of the Aurora and Coyote Ridge Vineyards. This due to the lingering daytime heat absorbed by its rocky base and the nighttime convective warmth rising from the Napa Valley below, providing nearly round-the-clock grape maturation.

Engrossing, intriguing, complex... the 2015 Checkerboard Nash Creek is instantly expressive, suggesting aromas of aged Prosciutto, wild Blackberries, dark Cherries, and salted Caramel. These follow through on a nuanced and full palate, accompanied by Baking Spice, Cocoa Powder, and Espresso. The vineyard's volcanic, Rhyolite composition provides a minerality that is uplifting and ensures extended cellaring.

In its youth, the wine benefits from decanting prior to serving.”