



2016 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.

Always deep and intriguing, the wines of Nash Creek Vineyard have an unmatched intensity both visually and on the palate. The fruit is black and briary and unlike anywhere on the Estate. This vintage is spice-forward with additional notes of dusty cocoa, cola, cedar, blackberry and boysenberry showcased in a wine of incredible structure. It's lifted by the site's minerality and natural acidity and worthy of any collector's cellar.

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