



2016 CHECKERBOARD COYOTE RIDGE VINEYARD

MARTHA MCCLELLAN, WINEMAKER

"Coyote Ridge Vineyard is located on a long undulating ridgeline that runs Eastward downhill from the Aurora Vineyard knoll. The vineyard blocks are perched on the hillside above Nash Creek Canyon to the South and share the same red iron oxide clay as the upper blocks of Aurora Vineyard. Though the soils are similar, the South and slightly Eastern exposure of Coyote Ridge, along with its lower 900 foot elevation, allows the top of the summer fog line to reach the Vineyard. This creates an entirely different microclimate and growing cycle for its vines.

A hallmark of the Coyote Ridge Vineyard wines is the complex and co-mingled aromas of fruit, floral and perfume. The 2016 vintage remains true to the vineyard with nuances of lavender, rose petals, cherries, ripe raspberry, and chocolate. Although the silky tannins present themselves as deliciously sweet, the wine is high-toned with sufficient acidity to carry its broadness all the way through to a lengthy finish.

In its youth, the 2016 vintage benefits from decanting prior to serving."