



2018 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 vineyard 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 is 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.

Individual berries were hand-selected to create the 2018 vintage of Checkerboard Nash Creek. The wine is intensely dark and opaque all the way to the rim. It offers deep aromas of black cherry, cassis, white flowers, caramel, roasted meats and dark coffee. This extraordinary and well-balanced wine finishes with chocolately, finely-polished tannins. Nash Creek collectors will be tickled pink.

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