



2019 CHECKERBOARD COYOTE RIDGE VINEYARD

MARTHA MCCLELLAN, WINEMAKER

Coyote Ridge Vineyard is located on a long undulating ridgeline that runs eastward and 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.

The wines of Coyote Ridge Vineyard consistently show beautiful floral notes and are full bodied with present but approachable tannins. The 2019 vintage does not disappoint in a fruit-forward rendition encapsulating the growing season. Dark red fruits, chocolate cherry, caramel, rose petal and tellicherry pepper dominate the wine's character. The tannins are silky and savory and provide a lengthy and showy finish. Each berry of 2019 Checkerboard Coyote Ridge was hand-selected on our sorting table.

In its youth, the 2019 vintage of Checkerboard Coyote Ridge benefits from a brief decant prior to serving.