



2010 OVEJA NEGRA SINGLE VINEYARD CARIGNAN

WINEMAKER:	Edgard Carter
REGION:	Maule Valley, Chile
VARIETALS:	93% Carignan, 4% Malbec, 3% Petit Verdot
MATURATION:	Aged for 18 months in 100% French oak
ANALYSIS:	14.0% alc/vol TA: 5.55 g/L pH: 3.56

VINEYARD:

The grapes for this Carignan come from Oveja Negra's 60+-year-old dry farmed vineyard located in Cauquenes, in the western side of the Maule Valley (124 miles south of Santiago and 12.5 miles from the Andes Mountains range). Growing season diurnal temperatures allow for full varietal ripeness and color development. High temperatures, a lack of rain during January through April, and poor soils impart naturally healthy and balanced vine vigor. Because of this, no canopy management is required. The crop load is thinned to one cluster per shoot in veraison. Yield was between two and three tons per acre.

WINEMAKING:

The grapes were hand-picked the first week of April and immediately transported to the winery for sorting and gentle destemming. The grapes were cold macerated for four days followed by a warm ferment in open stainless steel tanks for three weeks. During fermentation the cap was punched down three times daily. The wine was then aged for 18 months in 100% French oak barrels.

TASTING NOTES:

The 2010 Single Vineyard Carignan is violet in color with a sweet berry fruit character that recalls cherry, strawberry and pomegranate mingled elegantly with a spice notes in the background. Soft, round tannins are wonderfully integrated with a bright acidity and sweet balance. This is deep and elegant Carignan that finishes long and supple.

CRITICAL ACCLAIM: Not yet reviewed. 2009 - 90 pts Wine Enthusiast

ABOUT OVEJA NEGRA:

Translated literally as "Black Sheep," Oveja Negra wines intend to stand out from the flock. True representations of Chile's Maule Valley, Oveja Negra wines sing strident of their roots, but are willing to challenge convention. The Maule Valley offers a significant diversity of soil types, allowing a wide range of grape varieties to grow. As part of the VIA Wines family, and with more than 2,500 acres of estate vineyards to work with, Winemaker Edgard Carter and his team have a constant source of inspiration for innovation and experimentation. The Reserva tier features unusual blends, such as a Sauvignon Blanc-Carmenere. Oveja Negra's Single Vineyard wines are crafted to make each Maule Valley vineyard site shine bright, combining a fruit-driven structure with modern winemaking techniques.



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