



2012 OVEJA NEGRA CABERNET FRANC CARMENÈRE RESERVA

WINEMAKER:	Edgard Carter
REGION:	Maule Valley, Chile
VARIETALS:	60% Cabernet Franc, 40% Carmenère
MATURATION:	50% aged for 8-10 months in French oak
ANALYSIS:	13.5% alc/vol TA: 5.10 g/L pH: 3.69

VINEYARD:

The grapes for this Cabernet Franc Carmenère come from Oveja Negra's Rio Bonito and La Esperanza blocks located on the estate San Rafael vineyard in the Maule Valley (124 miles south of Santiago and 12.5 miles from the Andes Mountains range). During the growing season, the oscillating temperatures are ideal for synthesizing berry color, warm days help favor flavor ripeness and cool nights contribute to preserve good acidity. The lack of rain during ripening and the soils' moderate vigor potential bring a naturally healthy and balanced vigor condition in the vines. Yield was just under four tons per acre.

WINEMAKING:

The grapes were hand-picked in late April into early May and immediately transported to the winery for sorting and gentle de-stemming. Next, the fruit was cold macerated for four days followed by a warm ferment in open stainless steel tanks lasting three weeks and punch downs took place three times daily. 50% of the wine was then aged for eight to ten months in French oak barrels.

TASTING NOTES:

The wine displays aromas of red cherries and soft touches of raspberries against a black fruit background, complemented with some tobacco and cassis notes. Firm yet smooth on the palate, this red blend exhibits a juicy mouthfeel that reveals elegant hints of cedar and baker's chocolate that lead to more fruity characters on the finish.

CRITICAL ACCLAIM: Not yet reviewed.

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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703 Jefferson Street, Napa, California 94559
Tel (707) 258 9552 • Fax (707) 258 9577 • www.obcwines.com • cellar@obcwines.com