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2013 OVEJA MALBEC PETIT VERDOT RESERVA

WINEMAKER :	Edgard Carter
REGION :	Maule Valley, Chile
VARIETALS :	80% Malbec, 20% Petit Verdot
MATURATION :	50% in neutral French and American oak for 10 months
ANALYSIS :	13.5% alc/vol TA: 4.9 g/L pH: 3.56

THE VINTAGE :

The 2013 was the coolest in recent years. A cold spring resulted in a slow maturity, therefore harvest began a month later than in 2012. The rains between September and March did not heavily impact either yields or grape ripeness but did promote great acidity and fresh fruit flavors.

WINEMAKING :

The grapes were hand-picked in March. The fruit was destemmed but not crushed to avoid excessive berry breakage and to minimize harsh flavors. All Malbec and Petit Verdot lots underwent a four to six day cold soak. Fermentation followed and lasted 24 days with three pumpovers occurring per day. The wine was naturally stabilized during the winter and earth-filtered prior to bottling.

TASTING NOTES :

Deep purple with a crimson hue in color, this Malbec Petit Verdot is tremendously aromatic. It offers notes of violets that lead to black fruits such as blueberries and blackberries intermingling with the fruity aromas. The Malbec lends juiciness and sweet tannins to the palate, while the Petit Verdot contributes black fruit flavors and a tannic backbone, providing structure to the elegant finish.

CRITICAL ACCLAIM : 88 pts Vinous

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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