



2014 OVEJA NEGRA SINGLE VINEYARD CARIGNAN

WINEMAKER: Carlos Gatica
REGION: Maule Valley, Chile
VARIETALS: 100% Carignan
MATURATION: Aged for 18 months French oak (32% new)
ANALYSIS: 14.2% alc/vol | TA: 5.70 g/L | pH: 3.55

VINEYARD:

The grapes for this Carignan come from Oveja Negra's 65 year-old dry farmed, un-grafted vines 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 vines and balanced vigor. Because of this, no canopy management is required. The crop load is thinned to one cluster per shoot in veraison. Yield was less than 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 de-stemming. The grapes were cold macerated for five days followed by a warm ferment in open stainless steel tanks for three weeks. During fermentation the wine was pumped over two to three times daily. The wine was then aged for 18 months in 100% French oak barrels.

TASTING NOTES:

This ruby red colored wine is intense and fresh with red fruit notes and excellent flavor concentration. Tart cherries, pomegranates and raspberries are complemented by subtle sweet oak notes. The tannins are soft and the natural acid line lends tension and freshness to the palate. The finish shows good depth and length.

CRITICAL ACCLAIM: 90 pts Wine Spectator

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