



2017 OVEJA NEGRA CABERNET FRANC CARMENÈRE RESERVA

WINEMAKER:	Carlos Gatica
REGION:	Maule Valley, Chile
VARIETALS:	60% Cabernet Franc, 40% Carmenère
MATURATION:	70% aged for 3 months in seasoned French and American oak
ANALYSIS:	13.5% alc/vol TA: 5.5 g/L pH: 3.62

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 condition in the vines. Yield was just under four tons per acre.

WINEMAKING:

The grapes were hand-picked in April and early May and immediately transported to the winery for sorting and gentle de-stemming. The fruit was cold macerated for four days followed by a warm ferment in open stainless steel tanks lasting three weeks with punch downs taking place three times daily. 70% of the wine was aged for three months in seasoned French and American oak barrels.

TASTING NOTES:

The 2017 vintage delivered wines with very intense ruby-red color. The nose features a predominance of fruit accompanied by the herbal and red-fruit aromas characteristic of the Cabernet Franc, along with notes of black fruits and spices typical of the Carmenère. The palate offers good balance, with sweet young tannins that will ensure good evolution in the bottle for years to come.

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 100% estate fruit to work with, Winemaker Carlos Gatica 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