



2015 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:	14.0% alc/vol TA: 5.70 g/L pH: 3.55

VINEYARD:

The grapes for this Carignan come from Oveja Negra's 61 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:

Tremendous intensity and freshness in a wine known for its fresh red fruit and highly concentrated flavors, such as tart red fruits, cherries, pomegranates, and raspberries. The tannins are smooth despite the refreshing acidity. Great depth and length on the palate that echoes the fresh fruit with subtle sweet contributions from the oak.

CRITICAL ACCLAIM: 89 pts JamesSuckling.com

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, with acres of estate vineyards 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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