



VIGNO
Carignan Field – blend
Maule Valley
2016

“ *Old Vines Dry-farmed* ”
--phantasmagorical

- Alcohol: 13,5 % vol
- pH: 3,21
- Acidity: 7,5 g/l
- Residual sugar: 2,29 g/l
- 2 389 bottles filled
- 8 barrels



In a Nutshell

- we make three wines based upon Cariñena / Carignan in Truqui
- Vigno is from a section further down along the creek
- We work this small bit with a grower partner as we have done for a decade now
- Near the creek this section has terrific drainage and thus low yield and concentration

This wine was grown by a small farmer in the Maule. It was farmed by hand and horse with traditional methods of dry-farming 70+ year old vines with vines.

It was fermented naturally in small tanks with open-tops. Caps were punched down by hand and pressing was strictly manual. The wine was aged in barrels over two winters—barrels of three or more uses.

This wine is a tribute to the resilience of the ploughmen farmers of the Maule who have been stewards of the vines since colonial times.

What you need to know

The Vineyard & Farming	It is hard to imagine someone having the patience (and a financial advisor!) willing to plant a red vineyard in this part of Empedrado. It is simply so cool most years. It must have taken forever for these vineyards to have come into their own. Thank god someone had the foresight to be patient all those years ago whilst the vineyard could grow old. (Question: if golf were invented today, how many holes would it have?)
Winemaking:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ancestral farming by hand and horse - Naturally fermented with native yeasts - Open top fermenters. Caps were punched down by hand. Pressing manual. - Small portion was made with whole stems stomped with clean feet—this part was glorious and have done more bin experiments ever since. - Aged in barrels over two winters— barrels third use or more. - Yeasts native (we add Truquilemu wine from previous vintage to a pie de cuba) - No temp control (besides opening closing windows) open tank, no nada - Pinch of sulfites after Malolactic that normally finishes a full 7 months after harvest with next summer’s heat the following January. - Effect of whole stems well-established in this wine. We think there is a bit of a before and after.
Elevage:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Aged in barrels over two winters— barrels third use or more. - various cooperages (Sylvain, Berger, Nadalie – Alliers Noisette toast, and some Burgundy barrels)
Appellation:	Vigno / Empedrado / Maule Valley (Secano Interior)
Varietal:	Carignan with smidgens of Mataró in the field-blend
Color:	Purple rain
Personality:	A thinker with layers that reveal with patience - soulful
How many lots?	One Vigno each year
Previous Bottlings	<p>Vigno – 2015 Vigno – 2014 Vigno – 2013 Vigno – 2012 Vigno – 2011 Vigno - 2010</p>

Ageability 10+ yrs
Best drinking House: 2018-2032

The Vintage

Maule in 2016 was an almost optimal year. What began with worries about the lack of rainfall turned into a terrific quality fruit. On our parcels specifically improvements with control of mildew on the Carignan (Oidio) made for improvements which offset less rain falling which should have led to lower yields in the secano. If one manages parcel by parcel, cultivating the soil properly, the rains of any given year do not have the heightened pendulum effect many assume they should. Rainfall over multiple years on neighbouring hills above the vineyards is responsible for the water table – not just the same year’s rains. Great year. (Toto we are not in Maipo anymore)

House note

Spice and mineral-accented aromas of red and blue fruit joined by slowly emerging violet and rhubarb notes. Sappy and concentrated but lithe, offering energetic black raspberry, spicecake and floral pastille flavors and a bracing, refreshingly bitter suggestion of blood orange that adds bite to the back half. Finishes smooth, sweet and long, with resonating floral and spice notes and supple tannins adding shape and gentle grip. Complex and expansive.

Hashtag
#gwco



Critics Notes

Robert Parker’s Wine Advocate # 239

Vigno - Carignan field-blend 2016 **97 Pts**

The 2016 Vigno from Garage Wine Co. really blew me away! This always reminds me of the Truquilemu bottling, as the source is the same. This is elegant and floral in a way that very few Cariñena are. It has subtle minerality and an earthy touch, with a rare combination of elegance and rusticity. There is detail, filigree, texture and gobsmacking



balance. Grab it if you like Cariñena, because it is among the finest in the world! It was bottled in December 2017.

Descorchados - Patricio Tapia

Vigno - Carignan field-blend 2016 95 Pts

El carignan es una variedad que ofrece una textura rústica, salvaje, pero a la vez una acidez refrescante y aromas florales, una bipolaridad deliciosa que en manos de Garage Wine Co, bajo el sello Vigno (vignadores del carignan) se transforma en un pequeño monstruo de sabores frutales, mucha fuerza, mucha energía solamente equiparable a las chuletas bien asadas de un cordero.



James Suckling

Vigno - Carignan field-blend 2016 94 Pts

This is a ripe and delicious carignan that shows dried mulberries and blackberries, in addition to plum liqueur and baking spices. While the nose might suggest a blockbuster palate, it's actually polished with incredibly punchy acidity that goes on and on, as this wine approaches the finish. Drink before 2028.



Notes from Previous Vintages

Robert Parker's Wine Advocate # 239

Vigno - Carignan field-blend 2015 94 Pts

Always a noteworthy example in the Vigno association, the 2015 Vigno from Garage Wine Co. is one of their 11 single-vineyard bottlings. It's produced from eight barrels of Carignan and one of Mataró (Monastrell) with traces of País from an old field blend in one of the freshest corners of the Maule "secano interior" in Truquilemu (the other two are Huerta de Maule and the coastal part of Cauquenes, in Pilén). There is a faint animal touch of leather and cured meat and a rustic twist of tree bark and earth. The palate is serious and has an austere texture provided by the granite soils; this could be lighter and fresher. This is the same base as the Lot #67, as this comes from their largest vineyard. 2,315 bottles were filled in December 2016.

Descorchados - Patricio Tapia

Vigno - Carignan field-blend 2015 94 Pts

El carignan es una variedad que ofrece una textura rústica, salvaje, pero a la vez una acidez refrescante y aromas florales, una bipolaridad deliciosa que en manos de Garage Wine Co, bajo el sello Vigno (vignadores del carignan) se transforma en un pequeño monstruo de sabores frutales, mucha fuerza, mucha energía solamente equiparable a las chuletas bien asadas de un cordero.

Robert Parker's Wine Advocate # 230

Vigno - Carignan field-blend 2013 93 Pts

The 2014 Vigno from Garage Wine Co. also has the subtitle of Old Vines Dry Farmed Carignan. It was sourced from an extremely old vineyard in what they consider the freshest corner of the Maule "secano," in Truquilemu. Part of full clusters were used for the vinification and foot-treading. It's made of fruit farmed by hand and horse with traditional methods of dry-farming and 70+-year-old vines. It fermented with native yeasts in open top vats and aged in well-seasoned, neutral oak barrels for two winters. The nose shows the cool climate of the region; it's intensely aromatic, floral and fresh. But, it's in the palate where the vibrant acidity and the lively texture give it electric freshness where you really see the reflection of the place, the climate and the austerity of the soils. This is simply stunning. 2,864 bottles produced. It was bottled in November 2015.

Descorchados - Patricio Tapia

Vigno - Carignan field-blend 2014 94 Pts

Los aromas son frescos, de bayas rojas y negras. La boca es voluptuosa, amable, luego jugosa y con un agarre sutil.

James Suckling

Vigno - Carignan field-blend 2014 94 Pts

This is superb carignan-based red with earth, smoked meat and old vine aromas and flavors. Full body, round and juicy tannins and a flavorful finish. Soulful. Drink now

Wine Advocate – Robert Parker #222

Vigno - Carignan field-blend 2014 94 Pts

The 2013 Vigno Old Vines Dry Farmed Carignan from Garage Wine Co. is sourced from an extremely old vineyard in Truquilemu, the part of the Secano Interior that is closest to the sea, in a zone where the grapes can ripen. This comes from a field blend that contains other varieties like Torrontés Negro and País. The wine fermented with natural yeasts and spent two winters in used French oak barrels before bottling. The nose starts off floral and with bright red berry aromas, with good ripeness and just a pinch of spices from the élevage. The palate is medium-bodied with very good acidity and a low pH (3.33). With time, the nose turns more organic, earthy and a liqueur note eventually appears. While powerful, it's round and easy to drink. It evolved quite fast in the glass, which makes me hesitate about its evolution in bottle for many years... 1,992 bottles produced.

Vinous – Antonio Galloni

Vigno - Carignan field-blend 2013 93 Pts

(aged in used French oak barrels for two years; pH 3.31) Full ruby. Spice- and mineral-accented aromas of red and blue fruit liqueur, incense and cola are joined by slowly emerging violet and rhubarb notes. Sappy and concentrated but lithe as well, offering energetic black raspberry, spicecake and floral pastille flavors and a bracing,

refreshingly bitter suggestion of blood orange that adds bite to the back half. Finishes smooth, sweet and extremely long, with resonating floral and spice notes and supple tannins adding shape and gentle grip. Drink 2018 – 2023 Josh Reynolds

Descorchados - Patricio Tapia

Vigno - Carignan field-blend 2013 93 Pts

Cien por cien carignan, este es un vino vivo, lleno de frutas rojas, tenso, salvaje en textura. Necesita el asado, ojalá vivo. Se trata de un carignan de viejas parras en una zona muy cercana a la costa, sobre suelos graníticos. Esta es la tercera versión de este vino, con una producción de 6.129 botellas, es la más grande que Garage hace para su catálogo. Este Lot se siente vivo, rico en frutas rojas y notas florales, recio en textura, ideal para embutidos del Maule. Otro de sus carignan es Vigno (parte del grupo Vignadores de Carignan) que viene de Empedrado, una de las zonas más frescas del secano costero del Maule. También se trata de parras muy viejas, sin irrigación artificial. Este vino, como todos los tintos de Garage en la línea Lot y en Vigno, se cría por “dos inviernos” en barricas, las más nuevas de tres años de uso. Se trata de carignanes de viejas parras en una zona muy cercana a la costa, sobre suelos graníticos. Este vino, como todos los tintos de Garage en la línea Lot y en Vigno, se cría por “dos inviernos” en barricas, las más nuevas de tres años de uso. “Cuando vas a comprar vinos por la zona, los viejos te dicen que el vino que lleva dos inviernos de crianza es el mejor” –dice Mossman. El resultado es el tinto clásico que se necesita para refrescar una tarde de asado con los amigos. Su acidez es intensa, pero también su lado terroso y su textura punzante.

Robert Parker’s Wine Advocate # 222

Vigno - Carignan field-blend 2012 92 Pts

The 2012 Vigno Old Vines Dry Farmed Carignan is sourced from Truquilemu in the Valle del Maule, from Empedrado, a zone closer to the sea. The nose is very floral with rich, ripe aromas of plums and dark cherries. The palate is medium-bodied with lively acidity, some grainy tannins and a tasty, fleshy finish. Great Cariñena blend. Some 3,000 bottles were produced.

I sat down to taste through an exciting collection of wines with Derek Mossman. Garage Wine Co produces wines from Maipo and Maule, and their trademark is wines with great freshness and acidity from some seven vineyards they work. 42,000 bottles per year of highly personal and full of character wines. I later met with Mossman again to walk some of the vineyards for where he sources grapes for some of his Maule cuvées and the work he's doing there to support the local 'huasos' and their vineyards is remarkable. The common thing that I've seen between Mossman, Cancino, Parra working in the south is respect -- for the people, the traditions and the places. These are wines of respect. An exciting project to keep in mind.

Anecdotal narrative

Vigno is a Carignan producer's group. We helped co-found the group ten years ago in 2011 to help revive a variety that was downtrodden and under-appreciated. A lot has happened in just a decade, but the vines had a 70 year head start so it is easy to understand why.

Over the past few years leading critics of the world have tasted the wines (the group together) on various occasions and the wines have garnered some of the highest [and or THE highest] recognition / scores in Chilean wine full stop. To think an old-vine Carignan from a little-known corner of the Maule could rival the Rothschild's efforts in the Maipo is astounding— until you taste the wines and you realise these old vines have something very special / unique to offer the world. Forget what you know of Carignan in the South of France. Forget Priorat. Vigno is truly unique. Buyers, undoubtedly say “wow that isn't Chilean at all” and yet it is, in fact it is more Chilean than the supermarket merlot they think is Chile.