



2019 Old Vine Carignane

Testa Vineyards

Mendocino

In our opinion, old vine Carignane is one of the many unsung grape heroes that is far too often hidden from lists of varietals, never being the star. We are among several California producers striving to highlight the beauty and versatility of varietal (old vine) Carignane at the Testa Vineyard, planted in 1912 by Gaetano & Maria Testa and farmed today by 4th generation Maria Testa & her husband Rusty.

Appellation: Mendocino

Vineyard: Testa

Varietal: Carignane

Age: Planted 1939

Elevation: 1300 ft.

Soil: Decomposed sandstone & Pinnobie loam

Harvested: October 1, 2019

Pressed: October 16, 2019

Fermentations: Wild yeast & bacteria,
20% whole cluster

Maceration: 16 days

Aging: 8 months in neutral French oak

Bottled: June 17, 2020

Production: 215 cases

Release date: Spring 2021



Tasting Note:

If you could bottle up the sensation of a morning walk through the forests of Mt. Tam at the end of May, in the final moments of seeing green grass, just as the ground begins to get dry and dusty and the pine needles lose their moisture.... it'd be our Old Vine Carignane. This nervy wine has great character of wild strawberries, and a cranberry juice cocktail with a hint of white pepper. As the wine opens, a subtler hint of dried wood, pink peppercorns and rosemary emerges. Somewhere between the first and last sip, you'll find yourself deep in the woods, surrounded by savory earth profiles. Enjoy with rosemary potatoes and medium-rare lamb roast or a hot and fresh gyro with a tangy yogurt sauce.