

artezin

C A R I G N A N

CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

EVANGELHO VINEYARD



2013 While best known for prowess with Zinfandel, Artezin also is a leader in helping to preserve and promote heirloom varieties such as Carignan, Mourvèdre, Charbono and Verdelho. Mazuelo is just such an ancient variety, from the Aragon region of northeast Spain. Named after the villages of Mazuelo and Cariñena, it became known as Carignan as it moved into France and along the warmer Mediterranean coastline. As a late ripening, mildew resistant grape it needs heat to fully mature. It is widely planted in California, but only a handful of growing regions offer the right combination of heat, soil and long growing season to produce exceptional wine.

WINEMAKER NOTES

“Carignan and comfort food just naturally belong together. It starts with the rich ruby color, giving a noticeable hint of what’s to follow. Pleasant, welcoming aromas of red and black fruits such as blackberry and cherry pair with distinct notes of fig and licorice, topped off with cinnamon and black pepper. It’s no surprise that the flavors follow spot on, with a bit more allspice and cassia. Finely grained tannins give the wine a silky, supple and ultimately smooth, lingering finish. This is a wine meant for rich pastas, stews and grilled meats. On my cheese plate you’ll find shades of blue, as well as dry, aged hard cheeses like Comte, Grana Pandano or Manchego. This old vine Carignan is truly unique.” Randle Johnson, Winemaker

Blend: 97% Carignan
3% Petite Sirah

TA: 0.62g/100mL

pH: 3.17

Alc.: 14.5%

Cooperage: 100% Neutral
French oak, once
filled, 15 months

Harvest Date: Sept. 3-Oct. 9, 2013

Bottling Date: March 4, 2014

Our Evangelho Carignan comes from a seemingly unlikely locale: the Carquinez Strait, which is the estuary created by the confluence of the San Joaquin and Sacramento rivers. On the southern edge of the Strait is a bench of pure sand more than 40 feet deep. This is the home of the Evangelho Vineyard, planted in 1880 on its own roots. Since phylloxera cannot live in sand it has survived California’s two phylloxera epidemics. This 135 year old vineyard is miraculously virus free and is trained as true bush vines. These factors, coupled with precise viticultural and farm practices, along with some TLC from the Evangelho family, create small grape clusters of exceptional quality.

EVANGELHO
VINEYARD