

**Yves FALMET** Vigneron des Montagnes du Languedoc



Red Wine  $13^{\circ}$  75 cl bottles

My 'Carignan' label is made entirely from this grape variety, from Carignan vines over 80 years old. These are the oldest vines in my vineyard.

Carignan used to be the most widely grown grape variety in Languedoc, but its acreage has dramatically declined in recent decades.

Like Cinsault, it is regionally disregarded in favour of other grape varieties. However, in quality sites such as the Terres Falmet vineyard, when picked at peak ripeness and skilfully vinted, it produces lovely tannic yet fruity wines.

## • In the vineyard

I grow seven plots of Carignan on my large unbroken hillside vineyard, which is entirely classified under the Saint Chinian appellation and where the soil is composed of stony limestone.

The vines are trained in the time-honoured bush-vine style, a traditional Languedoc system for the development of vine structure, fostering good aeration and excellent exposure, which are pivotal to producing healthy grapes reaching peak ripeness.

Pruning is short, from 5 to 7 spurs with two eyes per vine.

The grapes are picked ultra ripe, by hand, from the end of September to the beginning of October.

## • In the winery

When they arrive at the cellar, the grapes are immediately destemmed, then lightly crushed and put into the tank. Fermentation in tank  $n^{\circ}7$ .

Hot maceration (about 25°C) in the same tank for four weeks, with twice daily pumping over. Racking at the end of October.

This wine is subsequently matured in tanks for a year and a half and racked twice with no fining. Very light filtration at bottling.

## • In the glass

The wine sports a deep black hue.

The nose is fruity coupled with spice perfumes.

The palate is concentrated and balanced with beautiful minerality, harmonious tannins and flavours of black fruits, pepper and liquorice.

Cellaring potential: 15 years and over.

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