

Hochar Père et Fils 2012

CHATEAU MUSAR, BEKAA VALLEY, LEBANON



HARVEST & VINTAGE NOTES

Hochar Père et Fils is sourced from specially selected vineyards near the village of Aana in the Bekaa Valley, characterised by deep, gravelly soil over a limestone base. Low yields (25-30 hectolitres per hectare) result in concentrated wines.

The grapes were fermented between 27°C to 30°C, with 15-30 days maceration in cement vats, followed by 9 months in French Nevers oak barrels. It was blended in the spring of 2014 and bottled later in the same year.

Pruning was finished at the end of March, as January and February had been extremely cold and snowy and at that stage we were predicting a generous harvest. April was fresh and rainy, giving a boost to the opening of the buds and by early May, all the vineyards were astonishingly green. June was very hot and flowering occurred with such success that we started to predict at least 20% more grapes than 2011. However, a very hot July and August caused the vines to become tired and the leaves turned pale. Sugar content rose dramatically but acidity remained high.

Red fermentation was difficult due to different levels of maturation. Some vats fermented slowly with others much faster, but in both cases, the results were promising - especially the Grenache which was super ripe and intensely sweet.

The 2012 vintage is dominated by the sweetness of the Grenache even though it only accounts for 25% of the blend. This wine has a bright crimson color, a lovely depth of berry fruit on the nose and the palate is full and broad with layers of fruit and spice, cherries, raspberries and liquorice aromatics. Lovely purity with depth of fruit and a long, firm finish.

WINEMAKERS: Serge Hochar, Gaston Hochar & Tarek Sakr

GRAPES: 45% Cinsault, 25% Grenache, 10% Carignan, 10% Cabernet Sauvignon

VINE AGE: 8 to 55 years

ALCOHOL: 14%

RESIDUAL SUGAR: <2 g/L

PH: 3.79

TOTAL ACIDITY: 4.1 g/l as sulfuric acid, 6.28 g/l as tartaric acid

TOTAL SULPHUR: 70 mg/L

CERTIFICATIONS: Certified Organic

ANNUAL PRODUCTION: 6,700 cs X 12/750ml

