



Chateau Musar

Musar Jeune Red 2011

Chateau Musar's youthful 'Jeune' wines are made from the fruit of low-yielding Bekaa Valley vines at around 1,000 metres above sea level. Altitude keeps the average temperature moderate at 25 degrees Celsius and with 300 days of sunshine a year, grapes are ripened to perfection. Un-oaked and made with a natural philosophy, Musar Jeune wines are vibrantly fruity and richly concentrated. The resulting wines of this year reflect the fruit characteristics and quality of this vintage.

The harvest of 2011 posed one of the most challenging experiences in wine-making at Chateau Musar over the last 20 years. The year began with a cold January but with insufficient rain. February proved similar with March being sunnier but April and May produced a really big surprise with a level of rainfall to match January, February and March combined. The result of all this rain was a very late maturation, with flowering occurring 25 days later than usual and this delay continued over the maturation period and up to the harvesting day. Syrah started on the 8th September with Cabernet Sauvignon on the 11th, followed by the Cinsault on 26th – which had been more affected by the rain. The harvest was finally completed on the 13th October, which with the exception of our 1983 vintage, is the latest in our company's history.

The Musar Jeune Red 2011 is a blend of 50% Cinsault (vines of more than 40 years of age), 35% Syrah and 15% Cabernet Sauvignon from our organic vineyards. The grapes were naturally fermented in concrete vats at an average of 28 degrees. In accordance with our natural and authentic wine-making philosophy, the wines were not filtered or fined and the sedimentation occurred naturally. This wine was bottled 11 months after the harvest to preserve the freshness and true expression of the vintage and terroir, enhanced by organic viticulture.

The 2011 vintage has a bright violet colour with a nose of blueberries, violets, red cherries and red berry fruits. The palate is very fresh and fruity with blueberries, blackcurrants and red plums. This very balanced wine with its fruit concentration, soft tannins and long, warm finish, is best enjoyed in its youth.

