



*Chateau Musar*

## **Hochar Pere et Fils 2013**

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 and the altitude keeps the average yearly temperatures at around 25 ° C, encompassing cold, snowy winters, mild springs and hot summers. The 2013 vintage is a blend of Cinsault (50%), Grenache (35%), Cabernet Sauvignon (15%). The grapes were fermented between 27 ° C to 30 ° C, with 15-20 days maceration in cement vats, followed by 9 months in French Nevers oak barrels. It was blended in the spring of 2015 and bottled later in the same year.

The 2013 harvest at Chateau Musar could be summarised in one word: elegance. From November into December 2012, precipitation was higher than in previous years, a welcome change after many years of poor rainfall. We experienced both snow and rain in January and February with March and April being cooler than usual. In early May, caused by a combination of the winter and spring weather, the vineyards were exceptionally green. Flowering was successful and we were all thrilled with the healthy yields at that time. July was not as hot, a week of heat in late August sent the different red grape varieties to similar levels of maturity. Cabernet-Sauvignon and Grenache reached high levels of sugar content. The only red grape variety which failed to react to the climatic changes was the Cinsault that was harvested last on the 27th September. The red fermentation processes were so slow as to be unique, something never seen before. Fermentation temperature did not exceed 29 degrees Celsius and some vats needed no temperature control.

The 2013 vintage is a bright ruby red colour with a nose of dark forest fruits, cassis and black cherries. There are also aromas of leather, tobacco and sweet spices. The palate is enriched with blackberry and mulberry fruit, plums and blackcurrant leaf. With layers of sweet spices such as cinnamon and subtle notes of coffee bean. This wine is well balanced and elegant with soft velvety integrated tannins.

14%

