



CHATEAU MUSAR RED 1984

1984 was a year of war in Lebanon. The grapes were put into lorries but could not travel by land to the winery at Ghazir as the roads were blocked. The lorries were therefore put on board ships in south Lebanon and sailed to the north of the country where they landed and were driven back to Ghazir. As a result of this detour, the grapes arrived at the winery 5 days after being harvested and had already started fermenting. Only two vats were produced in 1984 and it was never released by Chateau Musar, certainly not at the time it should have been released, however a few bottles have been sold to private collectors and connoisseurs in 2013.

The 1984 vintage is a vintage like no other – a very mature style of wine, almost over mature like a fortified wine.

The colour is a deep red brown colour and very dense. Bouquet of cigar box, smoke, leather, with very clear notes of mature fruits, figs and plums with an intense chocolate fragrance. On the palate, rich and concentrated, round and mellow, matured fruit dominates with very smooth tannins and a velvety finish of caramel, sweet chocolate combined with figs and dates.

Tasted in the spring of 2013 at the Hong Kong Wine Society dinner....

“Drank blind over dinner. This was a real privilege because Serge has never officially released this wine. It was hit by the exigencies of the civil war in 1984 and the grapes only reached the winery in October when they had already begun fermenting on the journey..... so it’s a late-harvest red other than by Amarone standards, I guess. Only recently has he felt it was worth re-visiting and he was keen to get our opinion. Slightly dusky, translucent jewelled colour. Nose is sweet, succulent, dusky and dusty red bricks and red earth, acetone, saddle leather, Arabian spice markets..... this is really complex indeed. Palate is sharp, quite young, Barbaresco-like black cherry fruit, sharply cherried....almost candied. Still very young. Lightly resonant. Revisit in 5 – 10 years... I think it could continue to develop over an eternity.”