

Chateau Musar Red 1985



Overview

A classical vintage made with no major problem, except one: its size. Good conditions in the winter followed by a fresh summer. This was one of the smallest vintages in a decade at Chateau Musar, yet the wine is one of the biggest.

Grape Varietals

Cabernet Sauvignon, Cinsault, Carignan

Winemaking

Natural yeast fermentations. Blended and bottled in 1987.

Tasting Notes

Medium to full colour, very fine bouquet leading to a well balanced, tannic wine. Very well structured with great ageing potential. A wine that will last and reward patient keeping. After re-tasting in April 2000, its power was noted – the characteristics of the wine had not changed much in the previous five years, however the vintage has still had to develop its full potential.

Masses of fruit with a touch of cinsault on the nose and a firmer tannic grip. It is the sort of wine which will be tasted blind against the 1985 Château Latour in five years' time and win on points. Lovely now, although it will keep and improve for many years. Château Musar is the Vega Sicilia of the eastern Mediterranean – at an eighth of the price – Auberon Waugh, The Spectator, 16th May 1992

First noted after bottling in June 1987: mostly Cinsault, picked early, long fermentation and no wood used. Lean and lively, with good acidity. Then 12 years later its nose reminded me of a ripe Ch Brane-Cantenac. Very tannic. Raw. Last tasted at Chateau Musar, Dec 1999 – Michael Broadbent

A riper smelling, yet harder than the 1986 and still very tannic 1985 – Michael Broadbent, Decanter Magazine, April 2000

Now celebrating its 15th anniversary, this wine maintains its deep red-brown colour and multi-layered bouquet that is rich with the aroma of cassis, cedar wood, vanilla and fresh. The strawberries that could be found as recently as 18 months ago have vanished, but the wine maintains its smoothness, has flavours that linger nicely – Daniel Rogov, 22 Mar 2001

Warm, sweet rounded nose which is ripe and full. The palate is smooth and spicy. This is ripe stuff: quite youthful tasting with lots of sweet ripe fruit. Lovely balance and leathery complexity. Very good/excellent 92/100 – Jamie Goode, Musarathon tasting, 2003

Alcohol

14% Alc./Vol.

