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# HAWKSHEAD WINES

## CHATEAU MUSAR, LEBANON

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Chateau Musar, with its vineyards in Lebanon's Bekaa Valley, is a legendary producer. This is partly due to the hair-raising tales of making wine in the middle of a war zone and partly due to the amazing quality of the wines. So, working closely with the estate itself, we are delighted to present the wines of Chateau Musar and we are particularly proud to make the first offer of Musar Jeune wines in this country.

Gaston Hochar founded Musar in 1930 after a lengthy visit to Bordeaux. He was keen to create wines similar to those of the Médoc and was further influenced by Major Ronald Barton, of Cru Classé estates Château Léoville-Barton and Langoa-Barton, who was stationed in Lebanon during WWII. Lebanon's Bekaa Valley, slung like a cradle between mountain ranges running along the country's eastern border, has been home to the vine since 6,000BC and so was the perfect location for the vineyards. There are now around 80 hectares of Cinsault, Carignan, Cabemet Sauvignon and Grenache, planted on average around 50 years ago, on a range of stony, gravelly soils over limestone. 300 days of sunshine a year mean

these dry-grown, untrained bush vines yield at most a meagre 35 hl/ha. High altitude, over 1000m, gives cool overnight temperatures to rest the vines from the searing summer heat and this unique environment is naturally conducive to vine health. Effectively 'organic' from the outset, Musar's vineyards were the first in Lebanon to receive official certification.

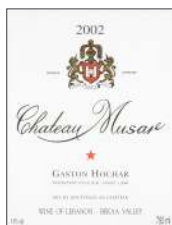
Gaston's son Serge (pictured right), now the guiding force at Ch. Musar, was awarded 'Decanter' magazine's first 'Man of the Year' award for his dedication to maintaining the highest possible quality during Lebanon's 15 years of Civil War from 1975. Fortunately, wine is helpful in negotiating ceasefires at harvest time. However, transporting grapes, hand-harvested by Bedouin tribes people, during war-time vintages was still particularly hazardous. It is a rugged and twisting 70km drive between Musar's vineyards in the Bekaa Valley and the family's cellars (named 'M'zar' in Arabic: 'place of extraordinary beauty'), built into a mountainside north of Beirut at Ghazir and overlooking the Mediterranean. Serge blends to reflect the strengths of every vintage: the 'Chateau' Red can display 'Bordeaux' or 'Rhône' tendencies, but every wine expresses its Middle Eastern origins. As Oz Clarke writes 'There is always something smoky and spicy and indefinably exotic about Musar.' Renowned for the lengthy ageing of his wines before release, the Musar Jeune range is an exciting new development. Young, unoaked and vibrantly fruity, the Jeune wines are reminiscent of the best of the Languedoc with that distinctive touch of the exotic.



The main focus of this offer is to launch the Jeune range of wines: red and rosé – the white will follow next year. However we felt unable to miss out the Chateau Musar Red, especially in such a good vintage, or the great value 'second' wine, Hochar Père et Fils. Whilst the Musar 2002 is a full 7 years in the making and can develop in the cellar for 30 or 40 years, the Hochar evokes the qualities of the 'Grand Vin' but in a riper, more accessible format. Vivid fruit and pure, appetising flavours mark out the Jeune wines and our six bottle Sampler Case gives a chance to enjoy them together with the premium reds with a 10% discount, including free delivery. Alternatively, you can make your own 12 bottles selection and benefit from free delivery.

### Chateau MUSAR Red 2002

BEKAA VALLEY 14%



Serge Hochar's iconic Red is a third each of Cabemet Sauvignon, Cinsault and Carignan. Aged in Nevers oak barrels for a year and then in bottle before release, this is the perfect wine for Christmas Dinner, this year or the next 25!

*'... has immense power dominated by dark plums, damsons, liquorice and a toasty, spicy finish... One of the best vintages in recent years.'*  
Simon Hoggart, The Spectator

At Peak Now - 2035

LE0012R £18.95

### HOCHAR Père et Fils Red 2003

BEKAA VALLEY 13%



From a single vineyard planted to Cinsault, Cabemet, Carignan and Grenache over 40 years ago. With 9 months in Nevers oak and more than 5 year in bottle, this is a wine of great finesse to drink or keep. Smooth cedar and bramble fruit flavours with hints of figs and dates. Fine tannins and impressive length.

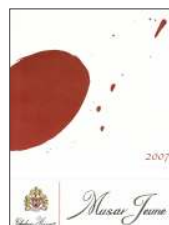
*'The little brother of Ch. Musar leaves an equally big impression.'*  
Kitty Johnson in the Sunday Express

At Peak Now - 2018

LE0023R £11.95

### MUSAR JEUNE Red 2008

BEKAA VALLEY 13%



Fresh off the boat from Lebanon, Chateau Musar's new 'Jeune' wines were created from the fruit of relatively youthful Bekaa Valley vineyards, situated at 1,000m above sea level. This blend of Cinsault Syrah and Cabemet Sauvignon was left un-oaked to allow full expression of vibrant fruit characters and the unique Lebanese *terroir*: Intensely aromatic, with vivid, mouth-filling flavours of cassis raspberry and red cherry.

At Peak Now - 2012

LE0038R £8.99

### MUSAR JEUNE Rosé 2008

BEKAA VALLEY 12.5%



As one might expect with Serge's first rosé, this is a bold, flavoursome, dry wine, reminiscent of a top class Provençal rosé. A pink/coppery hued wine, it is made with the free-run juice from Cinsault grapes. Pure and un-oaked with intense aromas of ripe raspberries, red apples and toasted almonds. These flavours follow through on to the smooth, rounded palate, which is savoury and refreshing. Serve chilled with Provençal chicken or grilled fish.

At Peak Now - 2012

LE0048P £8.99

**save  
up to  
10%**

The six bottle Sampler Case is **£65.56** including Free Delivery  
It contains 2 bottles each of the Jeune wines and 1 bottle each  
of the Musar and Hochar Reds – **a saving of up to £7.29**

Alternatively, you can make up your own 12 bottle case  
and receive Free Delivery on your order.

### CHATEAU MUSAR SAMPLER CASE

List Price	£66.86
OFFER PRICE	£65.56
Case Code	LEC001M