

LEBANON

HISTORY	One of the eldest wine producing regions with wine made around Byblos more than 5,000 years ago Instability and war in the region hinders the production and development of winemaking.
CLIMATE & WEATHER	Mediterranean climate w 300 days of sunshine in the year.
GRAPE VARIETIES	Southern French varieties (e.g. Carignan, Cinsault, Mourvedre) + Cabernet Sauvignon and Chardonnay
VITICULTURE & WINEMAKING	15,000ha Reds: Some Bordeaux blends of high quality Whites: from clean varietal to deliberately oxidised , rich and nutty Often high volatile acidity
KEY REGIONS & CHARACTERISTICS	Beka'a Valley Only wine region in Lebanon; valley stretching east of Beirut and south of Baalbek Combination of soil (gravel, chalk & limestone), altitude (900-1,100m) and sunshine allows for concentrated but still balanced grapes
PRODUCTION & BUSINESS	7m bottles produced every year Only 16 producers including: Chateau Musar - 120ha estate north of Beirut; founded in 1930 by Gaston Hochar; French style production - Experimented with barrel maturation in the 50s with the help of the Barton family - 80% of production exported; can be found in Majestic in the UK Chateau Kefraya - 300ha world-class estate now regarded as almost equal to Ch. Musar to which it used to sell its grapes - Great white dessert wine and top red with Comte de M.

COURSE TASTING NOTES: Premium Lebanese red - Deep ruby colour. Medium intense nose of redcurrant, pomegranate, stalk, strawberry, raspberry, black pepper, oregano, thyme. Dry palate, medium acidity, high ripe tannins, medium + alcohol, medium + bodied, long finish. Can keep.

Lebanese wine regions

The North

Batroun

Adyar
Atibaia
Batroun Mountains
Château Aurora
Château Sanctus
Clos du Phoenix
Coteaux de Botrys
Ixsir

The Bekaa Valley

Central Bekaa

Château Barka
Château Khoury
Château Ksara
Château Nakad
Coteaux du Liban
Domaine de Baal
Domaine des Tourelles
Domaine Kortbawi
Domaine Wardy

The West Bekaa

Cave Kouroum
Château Heritage
Château Ka
Château Kefraya
Château Marsyas
Château Qanafar
Château St Thomas

Mount Lebanon

Baabda-Aley

Château Belle-vue
Clos de Cana

Keserwan

Château Fakra
Château Musar

Metn

Adonis
Adyar
Cave du Monastere St- Jean
Château Oumsiyat

Chouf

Adyar
Château Florentine

The South

Jezzine

Karam Winery

