



Commanderie du Bontemps
MEDOC · GRAVES · SAUTERNES · BARSAC

DOMAINE DE CHEVALIER

1953



2013

Ban des Vendanges 2013

Saturday 14 september 2013

HAPPY BIRTHDAY(S) !

Olivier Bernard and his family will be welcoming a thousand guests on Saturday evening at Domaine de Chevalier, a Graves great growth, for the traditional Ban des Vendanges (vintage festival). Like the Fête de la Fleur in spring, the Ban des Vendanges is organised by the Commanderie du Bontemps, but this time in conjunction with the Crus Classés de Graves...

This great joint celebration will perpetuate the conviviality and joy that new vintages have always inspired. In fact, Olivier Bernard wanted to celebrate three different anniversaries on this special occasion:

The 60th anniversary of the Graves classification (1953)*: led by Château Haut-Brion (a first growth in the 1855 classification), these 16 grands crus (producing both red and white wines) are all located within the Pessac-Léognan appellation, which starts at the outskirts of the city of Bordeaux. This is the cradle of the famous Bordeaux vineyards. Above and beyond their finesse and elegance, these Graves great growths have a unique and strong personality. They also have an even temperament, reflecting these properties where the owner often lives. This is certainly the case with Domaine de Chevalier, where Olivier and Anne Bernard have dwelled for the past thirty years.

The 40th anniversary of the Union des Grands Crus de Bordeaux (1973): this institution brings together 134 estates recognised for their demanding standards and the quality of their wines. Members of the UGC travel to all the continents to provide a travelling showcase for the excellent wines produced in Bordeaux and enjoyed around the world. Olivier Bernard was elected President of the Union des Grands Crus in early 2013.

The 30th anniversary of the Bernard family at Domaine de Chevalier. In 1983, the world's leading firm on the "eau-de-vie" market asked Olivier, aged 23, to be in charge of Chevalier, where he has been at the helm for the past 30 years. This estate, well-known by wine lovers, progressed greatly thanks to Olivier's demanding, dynamic management, and now has an extremely fine international reputation. The work he has done is impressive. The perfectly-tended vineyard has grown significantly and every part of the cellars has been updated and improved, with a long-term perspective in mind.

Chef **Jean Coussau**, from the two-star, **Relais de la Poste restaurant**, will be coming from the Landes to prepare a dinner to accompany wines from the Crus Classés de Graves. We already know what one of them will be:

DOMAINE DE CHEVALIER ROUGE from... 1983

* Les Crus Classés de Graves : Château Haut-Brion (1er Grand Cru Classé en 1855), Château Bouscaut, Château Carbonnieux, Domaine de Chevalier, Château Couhins, Château Couhins-Lurton, Château de Fieuzal, Château Haut-Bailly, Château La Mission Haut-Brion, Château La Tour Haut-Brion, Château Laville Haut-Brion, Château Latour-Martillac, Château Malartic-Lagravière, Château Olivier, Château Pape Clément, Château Smith Haut-Lafitte