



Dear friends

2008 has gone by.

The widespread wisdom of the old peasant feared a leap year, such as the one we have just gone through. (annus horribilis). However, he differentiated it from all the others . – that were always hard for a peasant's life . By doing so, he was able to exorcise the alternating destiny of the seasons, in that way he could oppose the unfavourable fate that was against him, hoping for better times in the future. He made a resolution that he would have even more strength in the coming year.

2008 will be remembered for the disastrous events that took place in the financial world, the wars that broke out and are still going on.

Our sincerest good wishes to you and we hope that 2009 will be a more prosperous year and that it will bring about peace among nations even though we are well aware that many difficulties may arise.

2008 Harvesting

On the 15th August a hail storm reduced our grape harvest in one of our three vineyards. But luck was with us. From that day on, to the beginning of October when all the grapes had been picked the weather couldn't have been better. There had not been any rain and the temperature had been just right for the grape clusters in the vineyards to ripen. There is not a great deal of wine in the cellar but it is promising: it has an excellent alcoholic content, abundant phenols which, among other things, prove that the wine is good.

The grape harvest began on the 3rd of October and went on until the evening of the 4th, the date that had been chosen for picking the grapes in the vineyards.

When both alcoholic and malolactic fermentation had taken place and the pomace had been extracted, the aging process for "Brunello" started in the "large" barrels and for "Red wine" in the "barriques"

The former will come to an end in 2013 and the latter in 2009 when they will be ready for sale on the market and for wine lovers.

Our adventurous initiative started in 2000, after having spent many years working in a different professional field. From then on, we have had the opportunity to meet numberless charming and interesting people from various professional fields and coming from all over the world.

We remember your visit with great joy as we share the same passion for the wine that is a magical product coming from this soil relating man's toil and anxiety. He has known for a long time now how to put the product deriving from the fertile nature of this land together with its extraordinary culture.

Once again wine has proved to be a beneficial go-between for contact, a unifying factor, stimulating a disposition for communicating, conviviality, hospitality and friendship. We realise that friendship implies meeting one another now and again. But we firmly believe that sentiment is enough and we sincerely hope that you felt it when we met.

We hope to see you in Montalcino again.

We would like to end this letter by attaching a poem written by a close friend of ours and sending you our warmest wishes.

Storie della Sestadisopra

The Land of Montalcino (i)

Green hills

bathed in sun rays

holm oaks take care of the shade

and the lines of vines

with their chubby red grapes

and the peasants

through their labour

and their love

manage to extrapolate

the nectar

that gives off to the sensation of fragrance

that inebriate the way

to taste the ability to grasp the peasants' sagacity

the ruby red colour

makes sight come to life

bringing about conversation, listening

and another encounter.

(i) Antonio Cozzitorto : “ Adesso ... Ti racconto “