

## Chateau Chantal Timeline

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- 1978** March 10<sup>th</sup> Marie-Chantal Begin is born
- 1983** Bob & Nadine Begin buy the 65-acre farm which will be Chateau Chantal under the name of Begin Orchards
- 1984** Bob removes 10-acres of cherry trees
- 1985** First 10 acres are planted with Chardonnay, Riesling, Pinot Grigio, and Gewürztraminer.
- 1986** Trellis and irrigation is added to vineyard in the spring
- 1989** 14 more acres cleared, land is shaped, and roads are roughed-in
- 1990** More vines planted: Chardonnay, Pinot Noir, Pinot Meunier and Riesling.
- 1990** First wine produced under the Chateau Chantal label.
- 1990** July 10th “Winery-Chateau Ordinance” approved and a “Special Use Permit” is issued to Begin Orchards from Peninsula Township
- 1991** Chateau Operations, Ltd is incorporated doing business as Chateau Chantal with 200,000 shares to Robert Begin as sole incorporator.
- 1991** *Promissory Notes* are issued to 13 people, convertible to equity after the fourth year, acquiring \$227,500 in working capital for Chateau Operations, Ltd.
- 1992** Construction of the original Chateau begins
- 1993** July 1st Chateau Chantal opens its doors for business and sells its first bottle of wine
- 1995** Chateau Chantal clears the final 12 acres of cherry trees and begins preparing the land for grapes
- 1997** 11 of the Original Investors covert their *Promissory Notes* into stock—*The Founders Group* is formed
- 1997** Chateau Chantal wins “Best of Show” at the Michigan State Fair for our Ice Wine
- 1997** Chateau Chantal’s Grand Traverse Mall store opens for business
- 1998** Last private party event is held at Chateau Chantal
- 1998** East side of Estate is planted with grape vines
- 1999** Chateau Chantal wins “Best of Show” at the Michigan State Fair for our 1998 Proprietor’s Reserve Chardonnay
- 2000** Chateau Chantal coverts from a Sub-S into a C-Corporation, initial Stock offering (minimum not reached)
- 2001** Three healthy baby boys are born to Chateau Chantal staff members
- 2002** Construction begins on the B&B expansion
- 2002** Computer software is purchased for the Tasting Room to track sales and inventory

**2003** New stock offering

**2003** B&B Inn expansion is completed, raising the total units from three to eleven

**2003** 10th Anniversary of the opening of Chateau Chantal

**2004** Public stock offering successfully closed, monies raised allocated to assets such as new bottling line

**2004** Trio and Celebrate win Gold Medal at the 2004 International Taster Guild. Cerise, our new fortified cherry wine takes Gold Medal at the 2004 Great Lakes Wine Competition

**2004** Release of our first distilled product, cherry Eau De Vie

**2004** Purchase of re-conditioned self-propelled mechanical harvester, the first of its kind in Northern Michigan

**2004** Addition of 85-acre property off Montague Road on Old Mission Peninsula to Chateau Chantal containing 14 acres of planted vinifera vines and 20 acres of producing cherry trees

**2004** Bob Begin and his team of investors sign papers to purchase 136 acres in the Lujan de Cuyo region, a “county” in the province of Mendoza. The farm has 43 acres of mature Malbec and seven acres of Bonarda