

Press release for the 2016 vintage

2016: a benchmark vintage

In the context of variable quality and quantity throughout most French wine-producing regions in 2016, the unusual weather conditions in Bordeaux ended up being very positive. The growing season was divided into three very different periods, each of which left their mark.

The wet period: quantity

The equivalent of twelve months of rainfall (over 800 mm) fell in just six months! The ditches, streams, and Garonne River were at their maximum level.

However, since vines like water, they grew well, with plenty of leaves and fruit.

Flowering took place during a miraculous sunny interval in the middle of otherwise gloomy weather.

Wet weather continued in May and June, which sometimes made it difficult to treat against mildew. There was plenty of fruit, but it was necessary to be very vigilant....

The dry period, lasting from the 1st of July until the 13th of September: power

Summer was warm, but not excessively so, and also very dry. In fact, this was probably one of the driest summers in a 100 years... Water stress in July was conducive to grapes with a strong tannic structure and the month of August was propitious to quality. By late August, young vines without deep roots suffered from the drought conditions before much hoped-for showers arrived on the 13th of September.

An Indian summer from the 15th of September to the end of October: elegance

Two magnificent months, when the weather was neither too hot nor too dry, brought the grapes to ideal maturity. Alternating cool nights and sunny days slowly ripened the tannins on great terroirs. The harvest took place later than usual, around the 20th of October. Thanks to the fine weather there was no stress whatsoever – the magic of the 45th parallel...

Wines from this historic vintage are fresh, as well as generous, powerful, and very elegant.



Olivier Bernard
President