

CHÂTEAU CHEVAL BLANC

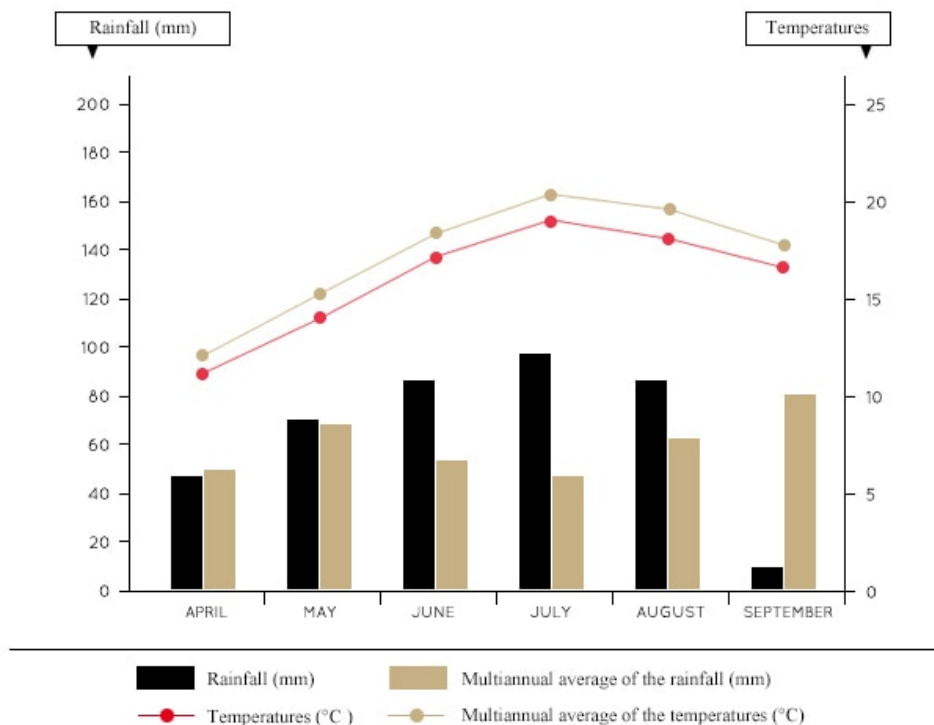
1977

The weather in 1977 was very difficult due to April frost, summer showers, and cool temperatures throughout the growing season. The wine was of lesser quality than some other vintages of Cheval Blanc this decade.

TEMPERATURES AND RAINFALL

It was cooler than usual from April to September. In addition, a hoar frost (as low as -6 °C) from the 20th the 30th of April ravaged the vineyard. Spring rainfall was close to average. This was followed by a regular series of showers until late August. September was very dry, with only 9 mm of precipitation. It was warmer and drier than usual at harvest time.

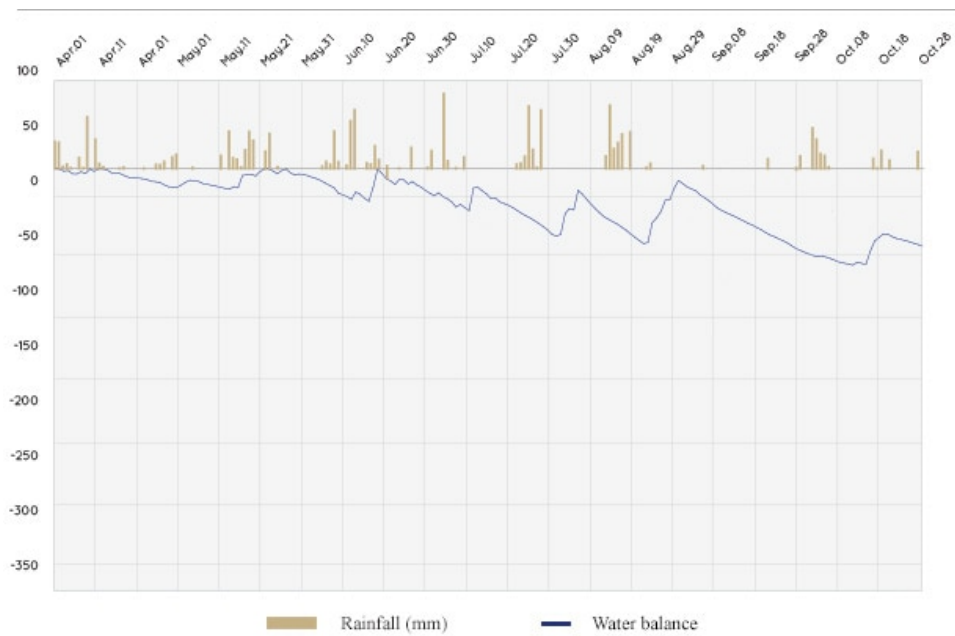
1977 : TEMPERATURES AND RAINFALL COMPARED WITH NORMAL VALUES IN SAINT-EMILION



WATER BALANCE

In order to grow well, the vine needs for water stress to set in slowly so the grapes to ripen well and become concentrated. Recurring heavy rains in August and September prevented water stress.

1977 WATER BALANCE



GROWING SEASON

The strong frost from the 20th to the 30th of April devastated the vines. The vintage was thus already seriously compromised. Furthermore, summer rain did not exactly help, and the threat of mildew was at an all-time high. Along with 1991, this is one of the most challenging vintages ever made at Cheval Blanc, both in terms of quality and quantity.

	Begin	End
1977 harvest dates	October, 10th	October, 15th
Average harvest dates: 1946-2014	September, 24th	October, 8th

RIPENING AND YIELDS

1977 yield (hl/ha)	Average yield: 1946 to 2014
7.8	33.9

BLENDING

Degree of alcohol	12
Total acidity (g H ² SO ₄ /L)	3.34
Volatile acidity (g H ² SO ₄ /L)	0.61
pH	-
Free SO ₂ (mg/L)	10
Reducing sugar content (g/L)	2.08
IPT (DO280)	-