

CHÂTEAU CHEVAL BLANC

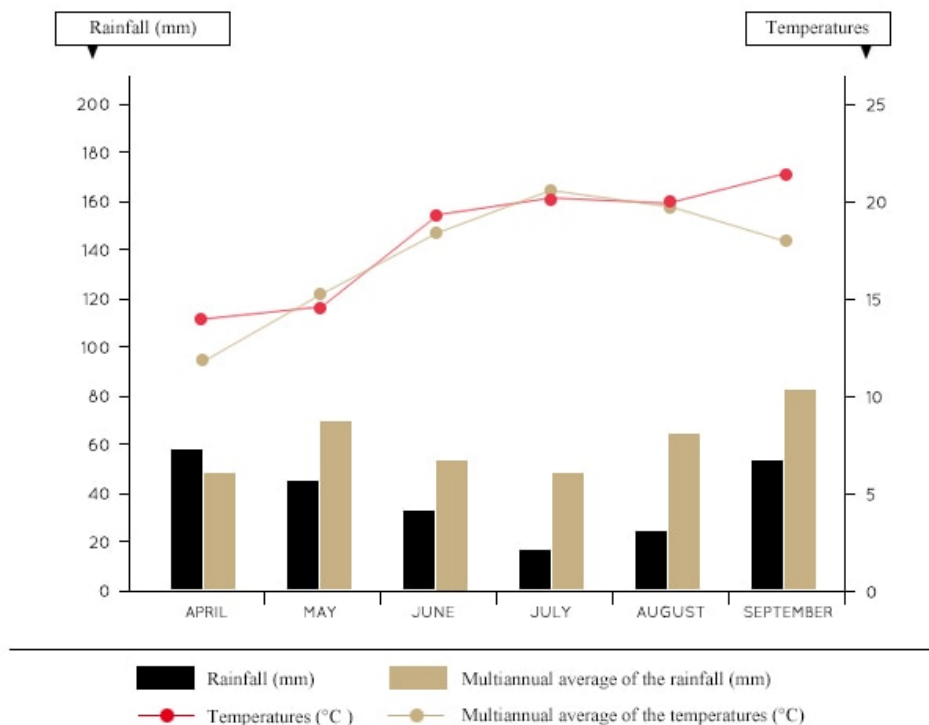
1961

1961 is an outstanding year. The frost on the 29th of May reduced the crop to just 11 hectolitres per hectare. Then, beautiful dry summer weather ripened the grapes to perfection. The wine is concentrated and classy, with superb tannin.

TEMPERATURES AND RAINFALL

1961 is a great year. The month of April was very hot (2.7°C above average), but with average rainfall. The temperatures the following months were also fairly normal, but there was far less precipitation than usual. September was simply outstanding, with an average temperature of 21.4°C (3.5°C greater than average), with very little rain.

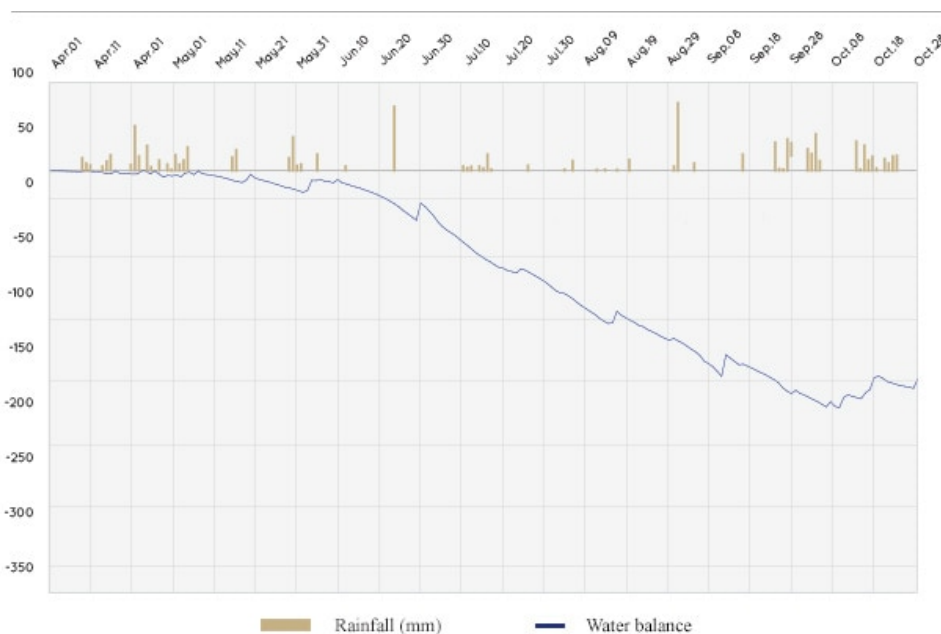
1961 : TEMPERATURES AND RAINFALL COMPARED WITH NORMAL VALUES IN SAINT-EMILION



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. In fact, the lack of precipitation from May to September was propitious to just the right degree of water stress.

1961 WATER BALANCE



GROWING SEASON

The growing season started off very well, until the 29th of May, when a frost hit just as the vines were flowering. As opposed to 1991, this occurred sufficiently late in the season so that there was not a second generation of berries. The rest of the season was perfect, and the grapes ripened extremely well.

	Begin	End
1961 harvest dates	September, 18th	September, 27th
Average harvest dates: 1946-2014	September, 24th	October, 8th

RIPENING AND YIELDS

The harvest began on the 18th of September and finished on the 27th of the same month. Yields were just 11 hectolitres per hectare. Total production amounted to only 160 barrels, but of sublime quality. The château bought new barrels for this outstanding vintage, which was very rare at the time.

Degree of alcohol: 12.5°.

1961 yield (hl/ha)	Average yield: 1946 to 2014
11.2	33.9