

CHÂTEAU CHEVAL BLANC

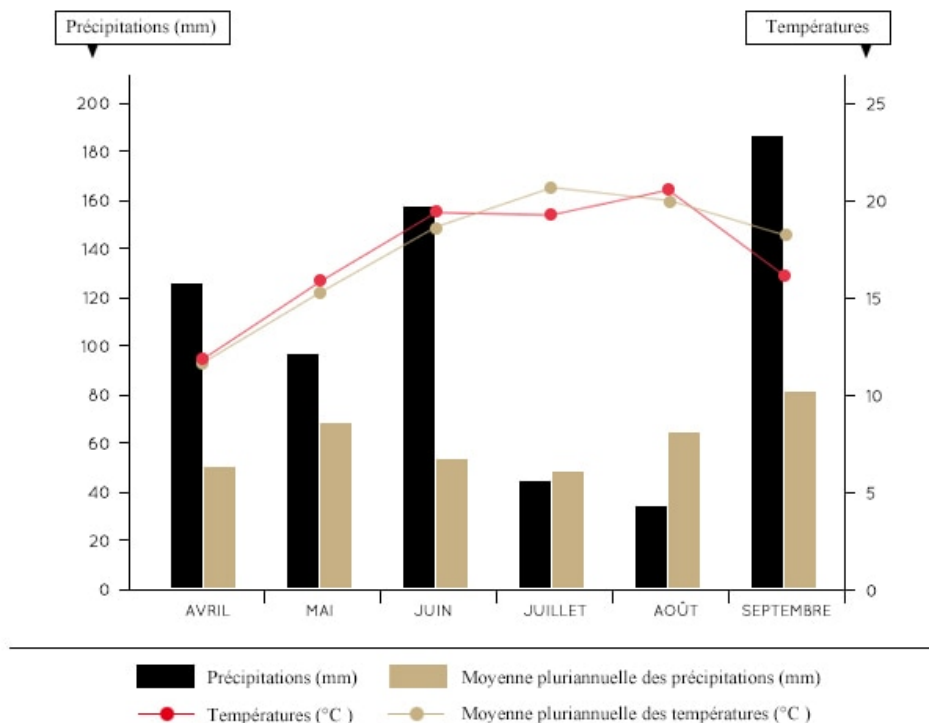


1993 was a cool and wet vintage, but a dry spell in July and August had a very salutary effect. Produced in a typical Merlot year, this vintage of Petit Cheval is well-balanced. It is ageing elegantly, and has retained its intrinsic fruitiness.

TEMPERATURES AND RAINFALL

The three first months of the year were mild and exceptionally dry. The above-average temperatures continued on through April, May, and June, but these three months were also very wet, with twice the usual rainfall. July was cool, with average precipitation, whereas August was dry with temperatures in keeping with the seasonal norm. A period of beautiful weather in the middle of the month had a decisive effect on vintage quality. A slight water stress prevented the berries from swelling and brought vegetative growth to an abrupt halt. September was cold (-1.8°C less than average) with heavy showers starting on the 9th. The same type of weather continued into the first half of October.

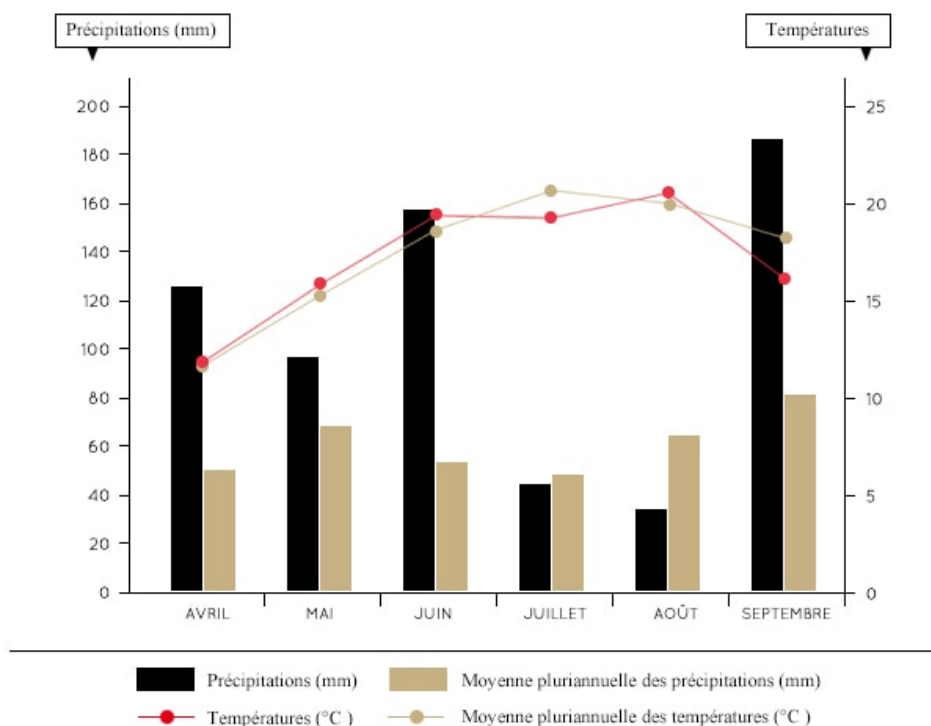
1993 : TEMPERATURES AND RAINFALL COMPARED WITH NORMAL VALUES IN SAINT-EMILION



WATER BALANCE

A short period of water stress occurred in August, between the abundant rainfall in June and that in September. This was definitely beneficial to quality.

1993 WATER BALANCE



GROWING SEASON

The growing season started slightly ahead of schedule, with bud break in early April (2/4/93 at Cheval-Blanc), followed by mid-véraison in early August (6/8/93 for Merlot and 13/8/93 for Cabernet Franc). A wet month of June brought with it a major attack of mildew, and plant protection measures were absolutely necessary. The harvest started on the 20th of September for Merlot and the 27th of that month for Cabernet Franc. Picking drew to a close on the 5th of October. Yields were relatively high.

	Merlot		Cabernet franc	
	Begin	End	Begin	End
1993 harvest dates	September, 20th	September, 25th	September, 25th	October, 5th
Average harvest dates 1986-2014	September, 19th	September, 27th	September, 27th	October, 5th

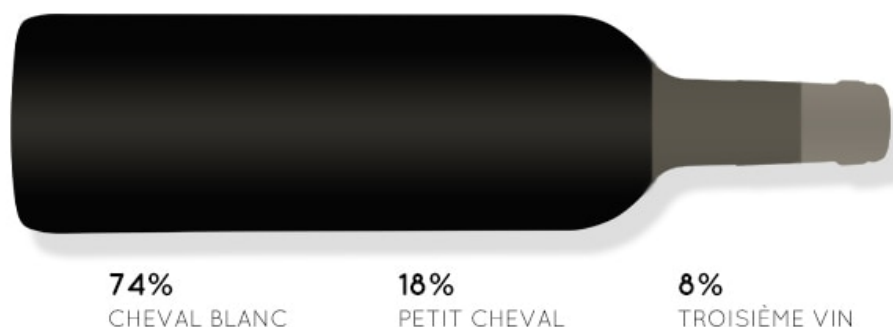
RIPENING AND YIELDS

Despite September showers, the quality of the wine was fairly good. The vintage potential was largely achieved after the first week of September and, due to low temperatures, it remained intact until picking. The fruit was in very good condition. *Botrytis cinerea* (grey rot) spreads when the thermometer rises above 15°C. As it so happened, the average temperature in the last ten days of September was only 13.9°C (as compared to 17°C in a « normal » year). The grapes did not weigh very much, which is a sign of concentration. The sugar levels were low and acidity was average, with little malic acid – a sign of the fruit’s physiological ripeness. There was also good phenolic concentration, especially in Merlot. Furthermore, the colouring matter was easily extracted, and the wine had a deep, dark hue.

1993 yield (hl/ha)	Average yield (1946 to 2014)
48.6	33.9

BLENDING

1993 PROPORTION OF THE DIFFERENT WINES, CHEVAL BLANC, PETIT CHEVAL & THIRD WINE



Volume in bottles : 40 120.

Degree of alcohol	12.5
Total acidity (g H ² SO ₄ /L)	3.62
Volatile acidity (g H ² SO ₄ /L)	0.60
pH	3.82

Total SO ₂ (mg/L)	80
Reducing sugar content (g/L)	0.5
IPT (DO280)	-