

CHÂTEAU CHEVAL BLANC



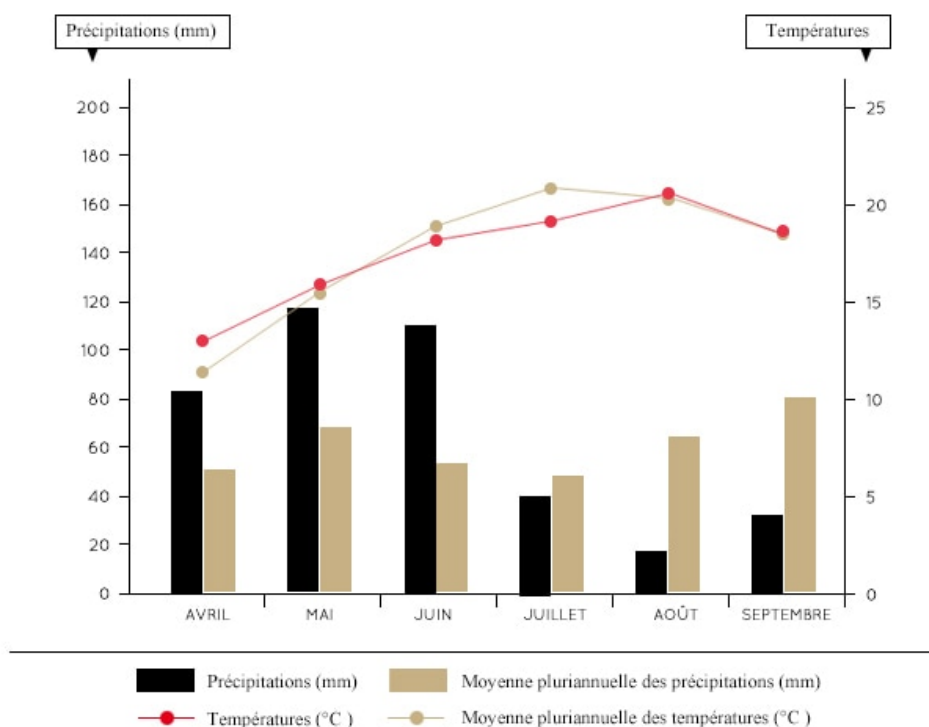
1988 was a cool and dry year.

The first vintage of Château Cheval Blanc's second wine was a wonderful beginning. 1988 Petit Cheval has its own identity, and its quality and ageing potential are obvious.

TEMPERATURES AND RAINFALL

The temperatures were close to average from April to the end of September, except for the cool month of July. The thermometer went over 33.5°C for three of the first ten days of September. However, it was rather cool at the end of the ripening period. The beginning of the growth cycle was wet, but a very dry spell set in starting in late June. There were just 90 mm. of precipitation from July to September.

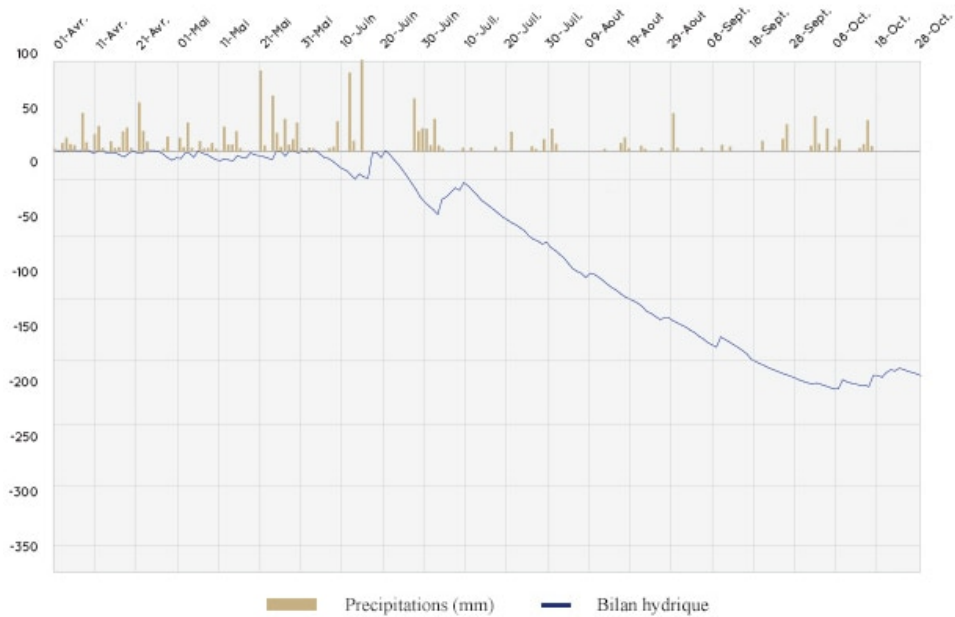
1988 : TEMPERATURES AND RAINFALL COMPARED WITH NORMAL VALUES IN SAINT-EMILION



WATER BALANCE

A slight degree of water stress appeared starting in late June. This water deficit, accentuated in July, August, and September due to limited rainfall, was unquestionably beneficial to the vines.

1988 WATER BALANCE



GROWING SEASON

After a cool, wet spring, the growing season was off to a somewhat late start in 1988. Flowering took place around the 10th of June and véraison occurred on about the 20th of August. Although there was a threat of mildew at the beginning of the growth cycle, this was completely thwarted by the return of fine weather after flowering. The weather was beautiful during the harvest, which lasted from the 1st to the 10th of October.

	Merlot		Cabernet franc	
	Begin	End	Begin	End
1988 harvest dates	October, 1st	October, 4th	October, 4th	October, 10th
Average harvest dates (1986-2014)	September, 19th	September, 27th	September, 27th	October, 5th

RIPENING AND YIELDS

The relatively cool, but very dry conditions during ripening were ideal for locking in rich aromas. The grapes were ripe, but not at all overripe, and displayed a great balance between sugar and acidity. Yields were fairly high: 40 hectolitres per hectare 1988 Cheval Blanc is a great Bordeaux: very classic and with great ageing potential.

1988 yield (hl/ha)	Average yield: 1946 to 2014
40.8	33.9

BLENDING

Degree of alcohol	13
Total acidity (g H ² SO ₄ /L)	3.33
Volatile acidity (g H ² SO ₄ /L)	0.6
pH	-
Total SO ₂ (mg/L)	132
Reducing sugar content (g/L)	1.2
IPT (DO280)	-