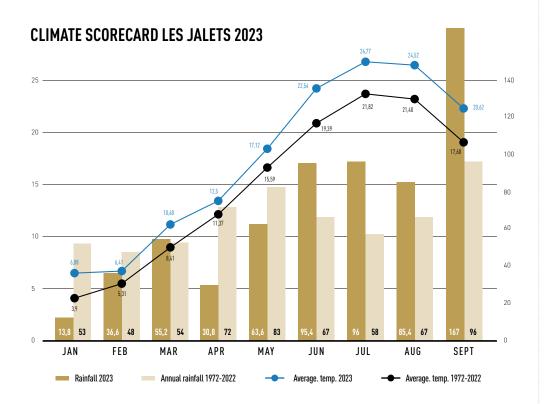


2023 VINTAGE

After an exceptionally hot and dry 2022, which was the hottest ever recorded in France, 2023 proved to be a vintage full of contrasts, marked by significant climatic variations.

Periods of intense heat alternated with sporadic bouts of rain. Prolonged sunny days enabled the grapes to ripen properly despite the changing conditions. The winegrowers had to show flexibility and expertise to navigate this contrasting climate. These conditions influenced the composition and character of the berries, reflecting the diversity and complexity of our terroirs.



MILD WINTER AND DROUGHT

Heavy rainfall in September, October and December 2022 replenished water reserves. However, 2023 began with a significant water deficit, which could be compared to the 2020 vintage.



The winter was marked by drought (32 consecutive days without rain). «This was the highest number of days without rain recorded since 1959», says Inter Rhône. The vines were then at rest, leaving us to prune them with peace of mind. Temperatures were fairly mild for the season, despite a few regular below-average spells and a few good frosts, which helped the soil to recover. In

February, we prepared our vine shoots to join our Hermitage and Crozes-Hermitage vineyards.

The vintage was launched at the beginning of April, with a uniform and ultimately early budburst thanks to a warm month of March. In terms of earliness, it was just after the 2020-2021 vintage, which was already particularly early.

RAIN AT LAST!

The first 4 months of the year saw a cumulative rainfall of around 130mm. The vintage was expected to be dry, similar to 2022.

The first long-awaited spell of rain fell on 13 and 14 May, with around 35 mm over the weekend. As well as hydrating the vines, this spring rain also provided the soil with the nutrients that are essential during this growing season. The season then saw a succession of regular and frequent rains. This wet weather continues until June.

Spring is the ideal time to work the soil using a winch, horse and pickaxe. Flowering was fairly rapid and took place in good conditions at the beginning of June.

Temperatures in April were slightly lower than the average for recent years, and slightly higher in May. As a result, the progress of the vines was slowed down, with the 2023 vintage finally returning to the averages of recent years at the end of the flowering period.

At this stage, the harvest potential is high, thanks to the generous budding and successful flowering.





VIGILANCE & REACTION

The bunches of grapes began to emerge nicely and, despite the increased risk of mildew (a fungal disease), the rainy spells in June had a positive impact on the development of the vines, with good growth and no water stress. At the end of June, the vines started to grow rapidly in a very short space of time, and our teams set to work lifting the vines and removing the needles.

In July, the trend reversed, with temperatures rising steadily, leading to numerous thunderstorms and heavy rainfall (444 mm) until September.

This succession of rain and heatwaves meant that we had to be extremely vigilant and reactive when it came to viticultural work. The rains had the advantage of being favourable to planting and complanting, which took place without stress.



HAIL BUT HEALTHY VINEYARDS

A total of five hail storms occurred from July onwards, with the Condrieu appellation only slightly affected. Cornas was then affected locally (12 July), particularly in Saint Pierre, but the vines were able to regain their vigour and produce a fine harvest.

The latest hailstorms at the end of July and August severely affected the Crozes-Hermitage vineyards at Thalabert and the Saint-Joseph vineyards to the north of the appellation. The good news was the resilience of our vines, which renewed enough leaves to ripen the grapes that remained intact.





The vines were very vigorous and still growing at the beginning of July, when bunch closure had been reached in almost all areas. The mid-veraison stage was reached on 31 July in good conditions, and the vines were even luxuriant for this period compared with 2022. Downy mildew has been well controlled, the foliage is healthy and all we can do now is wait. **At this stage, it generally takes a month to reach maturity.**

A DOTTED HARVEST

The grapes were bursting with juice, the bunches were longer and the skins thicker. The cool weather at the beginning of August suddenly turned to heat.





Everything was moving very fast, nature was running amok! The ripening of the whites accelerated astonishingly. During ripeness checks, samples taken on 9 August showed potential degrees of alcohol at 8.5° for marsanne, which rose to 11.1° on 16 August and then 13.15° on 21 August.

To preserve the freshness we were looking for, we rang the bell for the harvest on 23 August, starting with our white Crozes-Hermitage. On 30 August, we harvested our first Syrahs, still in the Crozes-Hermitage appellation, and our Domaine de Roure closed the ban on 25 September.

This year's harvest was particularly spread out, and certainly the longest for several years (5 weeks). We harvested our plots 'dotted' in order to reach the ideal levels of ripeness. Each terroir did its best to adapt to the particular conditions of this vintage.







It is the wines resulting from complex vintages that tell us a unique story of the terroir, testifying to the inimitable character of each year, but also to the human efforts made to overcome the obstacles.

2023 HARVEST DATES PER APPELLATION

PHENOLOGICAL STAGES

Budburst — 3 April Flowering — 5 June Veraison — 31 July Harvest — 23 August

AUGUST

23	CROZES-HERMITAGE WHITE	
24	SAINT-JOSEPH WHITE	
25	SAINT-PÉRAY	
26		
27		
28	CROZES-HERMITAGE WHITE	
29	SAINT-JOSEPH WHITE	CROZES-HERMITAGE WHITE
30	CROZES-HERMITAGE RED	SAINT-JOSEPH WHITE
31	CROZES-HERMITAGE RED	CORNAS

SEPTEMBER

