

VINTAGE
2024



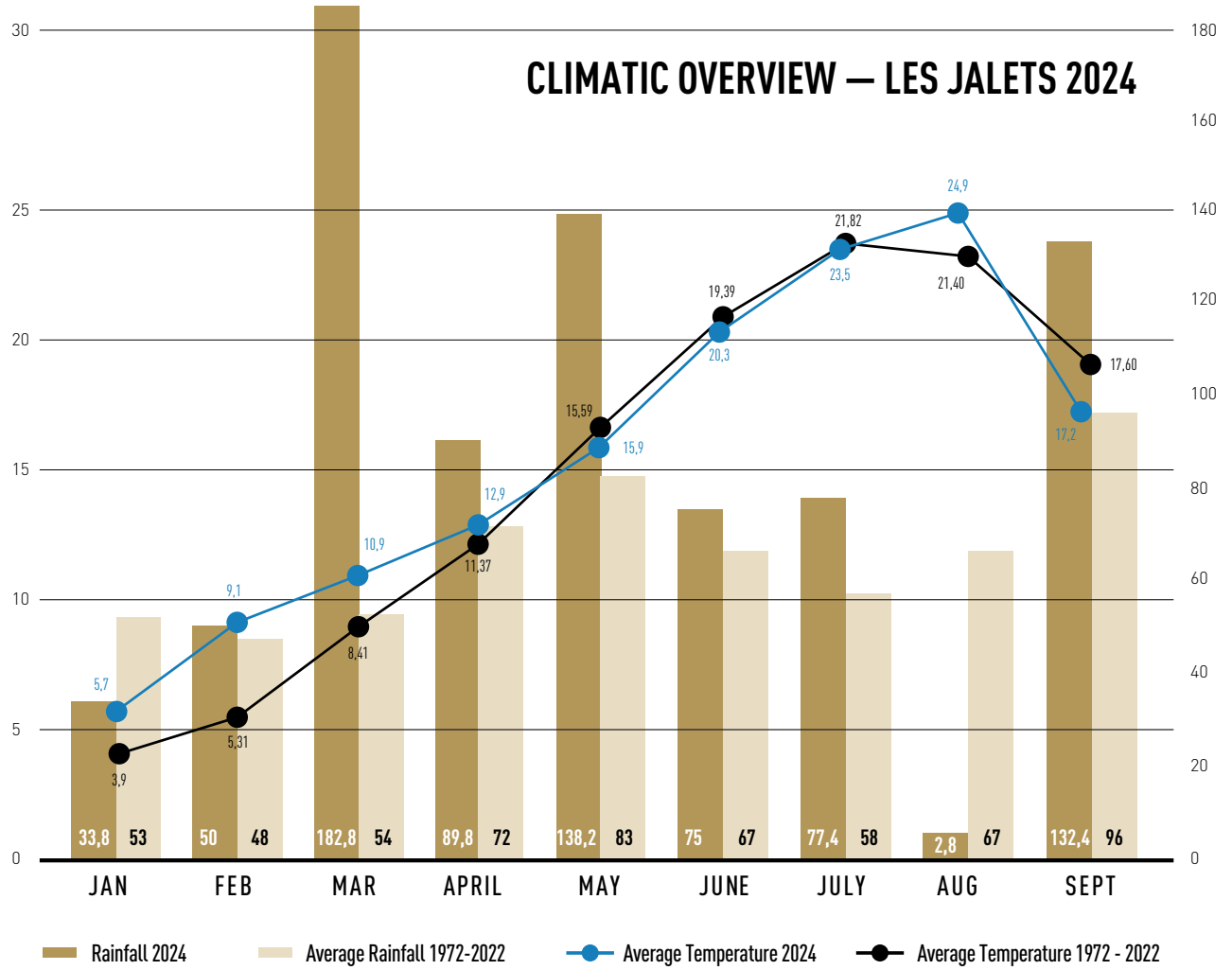
PAUL JABOULET AÎNÉ
FONDÉE EN 1834



VINTAGE 2024

IN 2024, THE VINEYARDS OF THE NORTHERN RHÔNE VALLEY EXPERIENCED PRONOUNCED CLIMATIC VARIATIONS.

After a generously rainy spring, the intensity of the summer heat encouraged a rapid and optimal ripening of the grapes. A promising vintage is taking shape, despite the year’s atypical weather conditions.



AN UNUSUALLY WARM WINTER

The year 2023 was marked by record-breaking temperatures worldwide. In our region, following an intense heatwave at the end of August, autumn stood out for its exceptional warmth and dryness.



Average temperatures exceeded 17°C, and only three Mediterranean weather episodes — each bringing less than 30 mm of rain — provided the year’s scarce rainfall.

The winter of 2023 followed the same trend, with remarkably mild and dry conditions, and temperatures approaching 20°C on several occasions. This unusually warm weather made it one of the mildest winters ever recorded in the region.

The warmth accelerated budburst, shortening the vines’ dormancy period and leading to an earlier-than-usual start to the growing season.

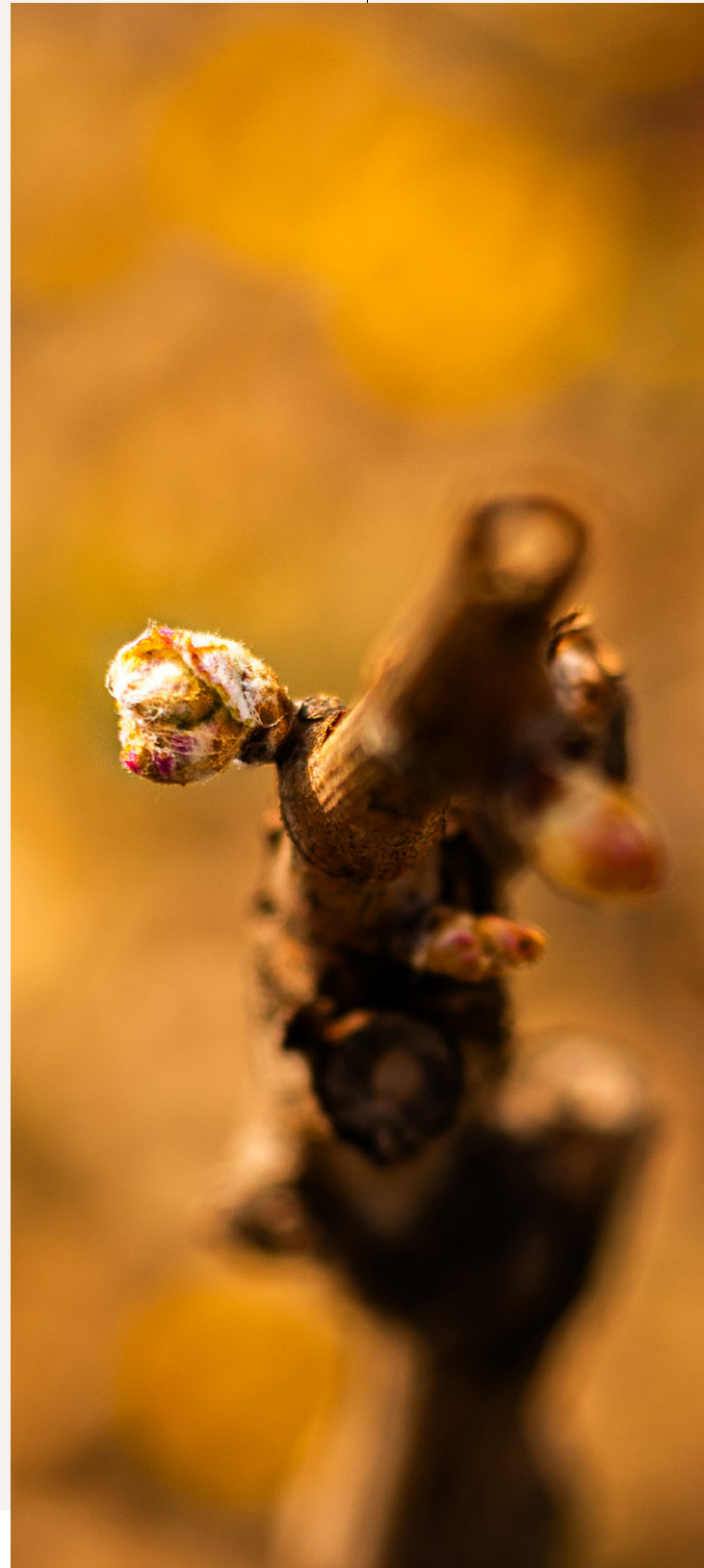
AN EARLY BUDBURST

IN MARCH 2024, THE PERSISTENT MILD WEATHER CONTINUED, ACCOMPANIED BY ABUNDANT RAINFALL THAT REPLENISHED THE WATER DEFICIT ACCUMULATED SINCE AUTUMN.

This stood in sharp contrast to March 2023, which recorded only 18 mm of rain, and came as a true relief for the region, ensuring good water reserves for the start of the growing season.

The rains not only restored soil moisture but also helped groundwater levels return to, or even exceed, seasonal averages.

The prolonged mildness of the preceding months naturally led to an exceptionally early budburst, as the vines' cycle is highly dependent on temperature.



ABUNDANT WATER RESERVES

AT THE START OF THE 2024 SEASON, SOIL WATER AVAILABILITY WAS ESTIMATED AT 100%, AS RAINFALL HAD FULLY REPLENISHED RESERVES.

May 2024, much like March, was particularly rainy. Precipitation far exceeded normal levels across nearly the entire region, rising by 84% compared to the long-term average. The frequency of rainy days was also striking, up by 140% from usual figures. These conditions maintained high soil moisture, especially compared to 2022 and 2023. As a result, 2024 stands out for its exceptionally high rainfall levels.

The early budburst was offset by this cool, rainy May, which slowed vegetative growth between budburst and flowering. The vines eventually flowered around the same time as the previous year.

The abundant rainfall of recent months not only helped recharge groundwater reserves (according to the French Geological and Mining Research Bureau) but also ensured unrestricted vine development. Moreover, the cloudy conditions reduced evapotranspiration, delaying the onset of any water stress.

VIGILANCE & FORESIGHT

Spring vineyard tasks — including soil work with winch and horse, debudding, trellising, and tying — have progressed as planned.

Fruit set, occurring at the end of June, requires heightened vigilance due to the high risk of downy mildew, a fungal disease. Although the risk was significant at the time of budburst, widespread contamination was avoided, as the spores were not yet fully mature.



BUILDING BRIDGES TO ADAPT TO CLIMATE CHANGE

In mid-July, our teams carried out trials on a parcel of the Domaine de Thalabert in Crozes-Hermitage. These tests aim to let the vines grow freely, allowing them to explore their environment naturally while being trained into arching bridges. This alternative vine-training method enables the plant to self-regulate during periods of intense heat, while also promoting a better balance between foliage and fruit.

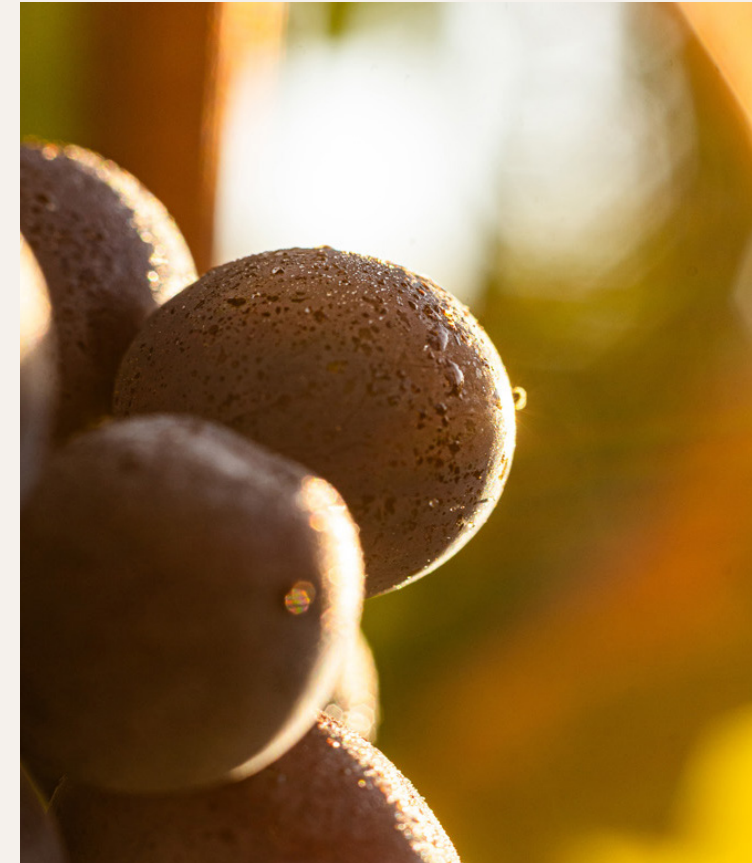


By mid-July, the berries had increased in size, reaching the bunch-closure stage, with veraison beginning in early August. At this stage, the clusters had become resistant to downy mildew. As for crop thinning, very few interventions were needed this year. The August heat allowed for a rapid and optimal ripening of the grapes, right up to harvest.

We are convinced that observation and experimentation are the only ways to test the validity of a hypothesis. This trial is expected to continue over several vintages. Within five years, the first results should begin to emerge, allowing us to assess the effectiveness of this method. In the vineyard, patience is an essential virtue. “Our relationship with time takes on a different dimension. We care for century-old vines that we cultivate for future generations.”

THE START OF THE HARVEST

Harvest began on 2 September with the picking of our Roussanne grapes in Crozes-Hermitage, followed the next day by the harvest of our Marsanne, destined for our Crozes-Hermitage Domaine de Thalabert “Mule Blanche” cuvée.



The red harvest followed on 13 September with the picking of our Cornas “Reynard” Syrah, concluding with the Crozes-Hermitage “Domaine de Roure” red and Cornas “Domaine de Saint Pierre” on 3 October. Our Syrah from Domaine de Thalabert and Domaine de Roure began arriving at the cellar on 18 September. This vintage stands out for its exceptionally refined balance.



The white wines of this vintage stand out for their perfectly balanced acidity, offering the lively tension so highly prized by white wine enthusiasts. This acidity imparts brilliant freshness and a structure that highlights the delicate aromas of the grape varieties, while promising excellent ageing potential. On the palate, it translates into elegant vibrancy and a long, precise finish.

As for the reds, this vintage is marked by deep, intense colours that reveal the fruit’s concentration. The velvety tannins provide a smooth, silky structure, making the wines both powerful and refined. Despite their richness, the controlled alcohol levels ensure perfect balance, avoiding any heaviness and allowing a beautiful harmony between roundness and freshness. Regular rainfall throughout the season maintained optimal ripening conditions, resulting in berries generous in juice.

It is a promising vintage, combining aromatic richness, balance, and elegance.

PHENOLOGICAL STAGES

Budburst — 1 April

Flowering — 7 June

Veraison — 5 August



HARVEST DATES

CONDRIEU — 4 to 19 September

CORNAS — 13 September to 3 October

CÔTES-RÔTIE — 25 to 27 September

WHITE CROZES-HERMITAGE — 2 to 18 September

RED CROZES-HERMITAGE — 16 September to 3 October

WHITE HERMITAGE — 3 to 20 September

RED HERMITAGE — 16 September to 1 October

WHITE SAINT-JOSEPH — 10 to 11 September

RED SAINT-JOSEPH — 26 to 30 September

SAINT-PÉRAY — 10 September

ARVINE — 27 September