

KANONKOP

WINE ESTATE



VINTAGE REPORT 2015

"It was as perfect a vintage as I have ever seen. If we hadn't got it right in 2015, we would not have done justice to the great hand nature gave us." – Abrie Beeslaar

The vineyards experienced no moisture stress during the growing season. December saw just the right amount of strain placed on the vines to prevent excessive vigour in the final growth stages. The temperate weather led to even ripening without sudden surges in sugar levels, which meant selecting the right time to harvest was crucial.

WINTER SEASON

May - Aug. 2014

An above-average wet winter with sufficient cold units accumulated for full dormancy break. budding was two weeks earlier than usual and even. Soil moisture was excellent entering the growing season.

GROWING SEASON

Sep. - Dec. 2014

15mm of rain fell on 5 November, followed by 65mm on 12 November when some hail caused damage to Pinotage on north-western slopes. Very dry and strong winds during December dried the soil significantly, and vineyards showed signs of moderate stress. Rain during flowering and berry set affected Cabernet Sauvignon berry set, resulting in smaller, more concentrated berries.

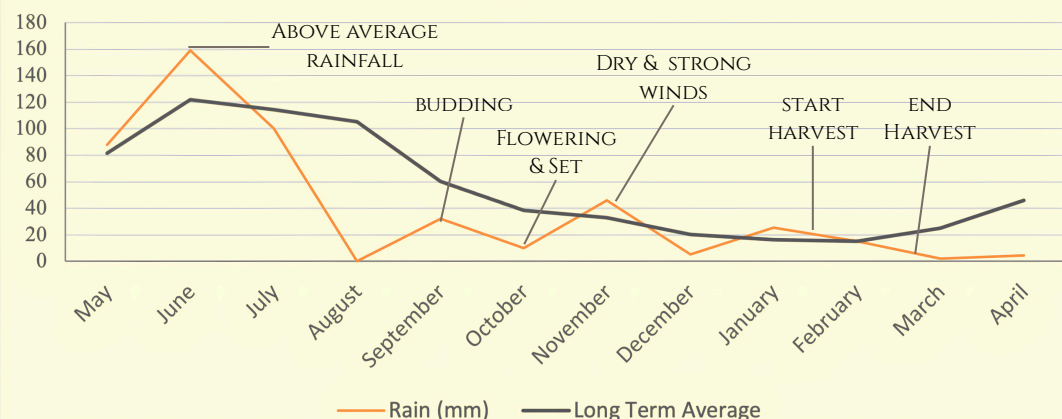
HARVEST SEASON

Jan. - Apr. 2015

Temperatures increased in January, causing grapes to mature earlier. Pinotage harvest kicked off earlier than usual. Conditions were cooler during the start of the February maturation phase, with very high temperatures during the first week of March accelerating the final pickings. No significant heatwaves occurred.

Early varieties like Pinotage produced good yields, and Cabernet Sauvignon's yield was lower, as the berries were small due to stress conditions during the cell enlargement period. Grape analyses were good with low pH levels, good acidity, and sugar. The colour extraction was excellent, and the acidity levels were maintained during the harvest season despite the warm weather. The wines from this vintage are destined for extended bottle maturation, and will gain complexity for 15 – 20 years.

2015 Vintage Rainfall Chart



2015 Vintage Temperature Chart

