

KANONKOP

WINE ESTATE



VINTAGE REPORT 2016

"Smaller berries resulted in good colour and flavour development, a good basis for making good wine."

– Abrie Beeslaar

This vintage was characterised by a very warm, dry season which led to a considerably smaller harvest compared to 2015. Raging fires around the Simonsberg was also a big concern, but luckily Kanonkop did not experience any fire damage.

WINTER SEASON

May - Aug. 2015

A very dry winter with below-average rainfall and low soil moisture. There were sufficient cold units accumulated in June and July. The growing season started with a moisture deficit.

GROWING SEASON

Sep. - Dec. 2015

Budding was on time. Warmer-than-usual October and November conditions accelerated flowering and berry set, though the dry period placed significant strain on the vines and reduced the number of berries per bunch. Irrigation started earlier than usual. A small amount of December rainfall brought some relief. Veraison occurred earlier than usual.

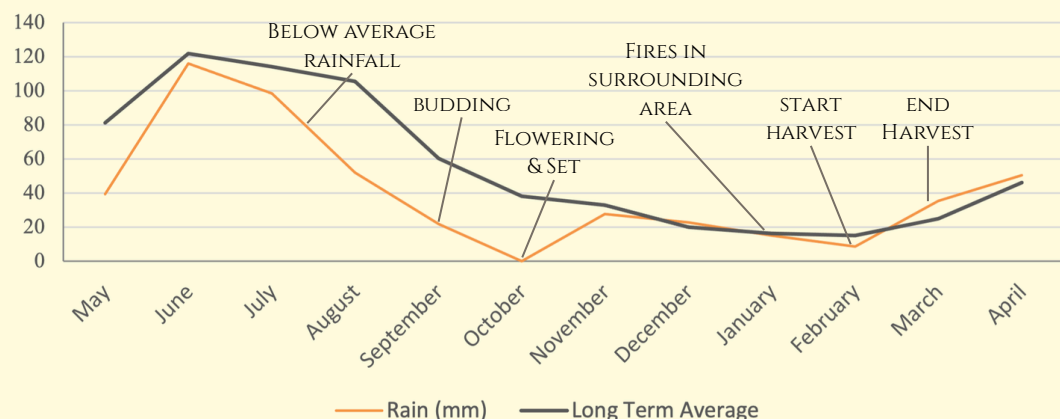
HARVEST SEASON

Jan. - Apr. 2016

A very warm and windy January placed pressure on irrigation, though wind damage was minimal. Drier conditions during the cell division and enlargement phases led to smaller berries, a positive for colour and flavour intensity. Fires on the Simonsberg slopes in January caused major damage to neighbouring vineyards; Kanonkop was unaffected. Fungal pressure was minimal due to dry conditions.

Smaller berries resulted in good colour and flavour development in the bunches, which is the basis for making good wine. The warm temperatures made the management of pH and acid levels especially challenging. The desired sugar levels was easily achieved and the juice recovery on all varieties was satisfying.

2016 Vintage Rainfall Chart



2016 Vintage Temperature Chart

