



CHÂTEAU BRANAIRE-DUCRU

- 2024 VINTAGE -

CLIMATOLOGY

The winter of 2023-2024 was mild and very wet. Total rainfall between October 2023 and March 2024 was the highest since 2000.

Budburst was 10 to 12 days earlier than average.

The mild temperatures at the beginning of April and the dampness of the soils contributed to the very early and virulent development of mildew, which required constant monitoring until the end of July.

The cooler conditions after mid-April slowed the development of the vines: flowering was not particularly early. Flowering went well, with the exception of a few early-ripening plots, where fruit set was less uniform.

Summer was slow to set in, but then cumulative rainfall in July and August was well below average: a water deficit of very high quality set in between bunch closure and veraison, favourable to the accumulation and maturation of the tannins in the skins and pips.

At the end of August, rainfall returned, slowing down the ripening process. The drier period from 12 to 20 September, on the other hand, brought ripening forward considerably.

We harvested the first plots of Merlot on September 20th, and continued on the 23rd. The fairly wet, cool conditions at this stage enabled the tannins in the skins to ripen rapidly. The accumulation of sugars in the berries remained moderate, and the degradation of acids limited.

We finished harvesting on 9 October with late-ripening Cabernet Sauvignons that were very healthy.

The average yield on the estate is 41.5 hl/ha.

HARVEST

TASTING

The nose is fine and precise, with a lovely richness and sparkle of slowly ripened fruit without excessive heat.

On the palate, the wine is round and supple, with a lovely aromatic relief.

There is a gentle touch of oaky notes at this stage, but the finesse and elegance of the already well-melted tannins are perfectly respected. The tannins in the grapes took full advantage of the drier conditions in the middle of the summer.

The alcohol content, just under 13% vol, is moderate, and the wine is well-balanced with a lovely liveliness.



2024 BLENDING

72% Cabernet Sauvignon

22% Merlot

3.5% Cabernet Franc

2.5% Petit Verdot

13% vol.

The 2024 vintage reveals itself to be delicate and complex, yet fleshy, with refined tannins and long-lasting aromas.