



THE WEATHER

Decisions, Decisions

2021, the Hamlet vintage? This year more than ever, it was crucial to make the right decisions at the right time. And for us, these decisions were made collectively. Which hectares to protect against a possible frost? Which day to spray, now that all our Châteaux are farmed organically, facing a capricious spring that sent us its share of showers? When to harvest to preserve the good health of the grapes while keeping ripeness and balance in sight? Each of these decisions shaped the profile of our wines in 2021: a vintage in which it was definitely impossible to cheat.

In terms of climate, we'll remember a spring that got us back to a normal timescale after several early years: a calm flowering, a storm of showers in June and July, and a happy August and early September when the weather cleared up taking us to very good ripeness by mid-September. Then, 3 spells of rain marked out the month (8/9 September, 25 millimetres, 17/19 September, up to 40 millimetres, 24/25 September, 6 millimetres), once again requiring choices to be made. For us, there was no question: we had to harvest, to prevent the health of the grapes from tipping over.

