



## 2016 Chablis Vintage

*“Top quality grapes but tiny yields in an late harvesting vintage”*

**Harvest date – 26<sup>th</sup> September 2016**

In Chablis, 2016 will forever be engraved in people’s memories. The old-timers say they have never experienced such a succession of climatic incidents (Frost, hail, heavy rain, late flowering, heat.....). Even if, in this northern vineyard, professionals typically expect these types of hazards, their frequency and breadth this year were unprecedented. However, a few months after the harvest, the vineyard has caught its breath: volumes, although decreased, are slightly higher than expected and, above all, the quality is there!

The Domaine Servin saw its Chablis vineyards hit the 13<sup>th</sup> May with a massive hailstorm with over 90% losses in the Chablis appellation. The Chablis old vine Massale vineyard was hit at 100%. Premier Cru Cru was down on average 50% and the Grand Cru 25%.

One grower commented "a vineyard shattered by spring storms, put back on track by a beautiful summer. At harvest, the quality is good, if not excellent; it is the quantity that is lacking". A warmer than average August and September with low rainfall saved the vintage after a wet and cool spring that produced a late flowering.

On the vinification side, the fermentations went well. Today, the wines are showing notes of white fruit, apple, pear and citrus fruits. The small yields have produced very balanced wines and extremely clean fruit. The mouth feel is supple but retains freshness; it expresses itself with a touch of finesse. The 2016 vintage will be an early drinking vintage but will also produce wines with medium to long term ageing capacities.

For this 2016 vintage, more than ever, each winegrower’s blood, sweat, and tears are inextricably in their wines, testament to the trials of a very special year.

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