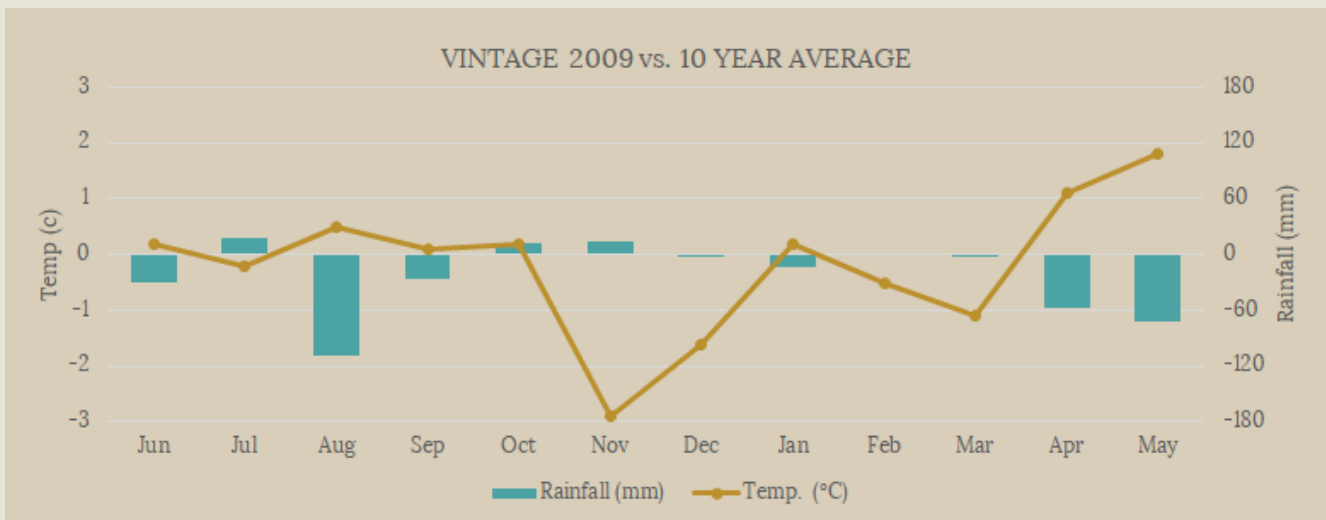


Growing Season

October was fine and generally sunny, a very wet, overcast and windy November that extended in parts up until mid-December. From Christmas the weather changed with a return to warm days, occasionally hot, with mild sea breezes arriving mid to late afternoon cooling things down and allowing the fruit to develop slowly.

MARGARET RIVER VINTAGE REPORT 2009



Harvest Conditions

Reduced flowering and lower than average fruit-set reduced yields across all varietals, with Cabernet Sauvignon the one most affected. This year it was classic text book harvesting with an average two to three week break between the whites and reds courtesy of some mild weather and some rain around the end of March.

The Wines

Flavours are as very balanced yet intense with the wines made perhaps comparable to the 2001, 2004 and 2007 vintages. The standout seems to be Cabernet Sauvignon; deep and dark red colour is accompanied by very soft to mild tannins that suggest a wine of outstanding depth and aging ability.



VINTAGE 2009 AT A GLANCE:

845 mm	26.2C max.	14.4C min.	n/a tonnes
ANNUAL RAINFALL JUNE - MAY	MEAN TEMP JANUARY	MEAN TEMP JANUARY	HARVEST