



Harvest of the wind...

With a succession of heat waves in June, the 2024 harvest (which was earlier this year than it was in 2023 which in turn was earlier than 2022...) looked like it would be blisteringly hot, but along came a gentle and generous Beqaa breeze to cool the fires and we eventually experienced some of the mildest harvest conditions since 1998.



heat, with temperatures hovering at around 40 degrees. Across all our various terroirs – from the Cap Est vines in the northeast of the Beqaa; the summits of Mount Lebanon at 1,700m, and the slopes of the Anti-Lebanon range where our Terrasses de Baalbek grapes grow, yields were reduced (in some cases reduced by 25%) with small, but exquisitely concentrated, berries. When it came, the cooling weather minimized the stress on these vines until much-needed rain fell on September 22.

We were reminded of 2006 – coincidentally another year of terrible conflict – when we had one of the most beautiful vintages. This year could be as good, if not better. And while we had to limit extractions and manage high alcohol, we were blessed with excellent acidity, especially our white wines, the quality and freshness of which never cease to surprise us every year. As for the reds, fully expect the generous fruit, balance, acidity and complexity for which the Beqaa is famed.



Elsewhere, there were other, more man-made, obstacles. We were constantly scanning the sky, not to predict the weather, but to look out for drones. At times we didn't know if we would be able to go to the vineyards. But we are used to working with geopolitical tension and our trusted colleagues kept us up to date with the latest security developments.

This has been a promising, if at times, frustrating harvest but we have had exceptional conditions, unfailing solidarity and a magnificent setting even if we were racing against the threat of man-made aggression. We remain hopeful.



Lebanon is the land of miracles; the land of the sacred Cedars and the land where water was turned into wine!

I wish a good vintage to my friends in Europe.



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