

# ~ VINTAGE NOTES 1997 ~

## HARVEST 1997:

The last of the rainy vintage of the century, the year showed great promise until the skies opened. Crop loads promised the largest harvest, yet they were almost ripe with rains came. Unlike the prior two vintages, when the rains stopped for post-rain ripening, 1997 remained wet. Botrytis pressure was high. The earlier picked vineyards as well as those winemakers who



sorted and crop-thinned, fared most successfully. Very good structures bordering on tannic, plus slow to evolve fruit has made this vintage unpopular with critics, although excellent producers made excellent wines that are now showing off.

