



## First 2016 Harvest Report

### WINTER 2015

Winter temperatures were within the usual range, with minimum temperatures of 14°F (-10°C) in Vista Flores and 19,4°F (-7°C) in Luján de Cuyo. By the end of the season, heavy snowstorms blew over the mountains and brought relief from the water crisis faced by Mendoza for the last 5 years.

### SPRING 2015

A very cool spring that presented lower than usual average temperatures: 34.7°F (1.5°C) in September, 41°F (5°C) in October, 35.6°F (2°C) in November, and 33.8°F (1°C) in December. Compared to an average year, these temperature variations delayed budbreak and flowering by almost 20-25 days, according to each grape variety.

The climate cycle known as El Niño exerted considerable influence on rainfall: 16, 8 inches (427 mm) of rainfall in Vista Flores—the 2002-2012 average being 2,9 inches (74 mm) for September-December. Both vine-growers and winemakers had to stay alert for cryptogamic diseases such as rot and downy mildew.

Because of spring weather, the number of berries per cluster was well below usual.

### SUMMER 2016

January, February, and March continued with spring trends. Temperatures were 2 degrees below prior years' average temperatures. In addition to this, there were some heavy storms during January and March with 4,3 inches (110 mm) of rain in 2 hours.

For all varieties, veraison was delayed by 20 to 25 days.

In the vineyards, leaf removal was optimized to achieve a more uniform color and improve ventilation.

### UPDATE ON THIS HARVEST

White varieties (base wine for sparkling wine, Sauvignon Blanc) were harvested in March with a 20-day delay (as compared to an average year). These grapes show great natural acidity and very good concentration of aromas. For these varieties, yields were within normal ranges.

In April we started harvesting red grape varieties for our Reserva line. On arrival, these grapes were less ripe than previous years. Natural acidity is good and color concentration outstanding. After devatting, the first wines obtained are marked by fresh fruit aromas. In about fifteen days we will start harvesting the grapes for our Ultra and Mai wines.

We estimate this harvest yields will be the lowest of the past 30 years.



Aurelio Montes Jr.  
Chief Winemaker · Bodega Kaiken

Mendoza, March 31st, 2016.