

ELENA WALCH



CASTEL RINGBERG
&
KASTELAZ

*Tramin - Alto Adige
Italy*

Vintage Report 2013

Elena Walch - Alto Adige

Vintage this year started mid September and even though some might think we are running two weeks late (as over the last few years harvest started late August already), we are actually in line with Alto Adige's historical averages, where our grapes can benefit from hot autumn days as well as from cool nights. The weather during harvest itself is outstanding and hence, we see very healthy and high quality grapes.

Due to a relatively cool spring, bud break was delayed by approximately 15 – 20 days and consequently, the growth cycle slowed down. The maturity levels differ depending on variety and altitude quite significantly this year. Due to a hot and dry summer our grapes achieved optimal sunshine hours, whereas the short period of rain was important to avoid a grapevine's stress situation.

If the weather remains unchanged, we are expecting outstanding measurements considering our red varieties, this including a nice acidity and fruity notes. Nevertheless, it might be a bit too early for a more detailed forecast. All I can say is that so far our grapes are in an optimal condition. Regarding our white varieties, they show a great finesse supported with a crisp acidity. This giving our wines more freshness this year compared to previous vintages.