DOMAINE
EVREMOND
CHILHAM, KENT



2026

The 2026 harvest at Domaine Evremond began on 18th September, almost three weeks ahead of our very first harvests in Kent, and drew to a close among the Pinot Noir beneath clear skies. Vineyard Director Christelle Rinville looks back on a season of frost, sunshine, and well-timed rain – and on fruit that promises a great deal.

What an interesting year 2026 has been!

It began with a test: on the nights of 11th and 12th May, frost settled across the estate, reaching further than in previous springs and touching the lower rows of almost every parcel. It was a sharp reminder that spring in the vineyard, especially in England, is never a formality.

But then came the sun. Kent is known for its bright days, but 2026 gave us a summer of a different order. As across much of Europe's wine country, the weeks were hot and very dry, and the vines made the most of all that light. The growing season moved quickly, the berries stayed small and concentrated, and ripening gathered pace through the long days of late August and early September.

In the first fortnight of September, the rain arrived – several generous downpours, just when the fruit could use them. The bunches filled out, in places almost doubling in weight.

By then it was clear that we would be picking early. Our teams had to be gathered quickly – no small task in the Garden of England, where September also belongs to the apple harvest – and the first snip of secateurs took place on 18th September.

We picked with great care. What came in was a pleasure to see: handsome crates of grapes, sugar and acidity developing just as we had hoped, and fine aromatics across Chardonnay, Pinot Noir, and Pinot Meunier.

The picking itself took place in near-constant sunshine, with some days warm enough to pass for high summer – making it a particular joy to be outside with family and friends of the Domaine.

The juice is now all in the winery, and the first tastings are showing great promise. The 2026 vintage already has a story to tell. We look forward to sharing it with you in the glass.