



## PASSION

"I have discovered the wine of Château Lafite to be a delicious, generous cordial, comparable to the ambrosia of the Gods of Olympus".

**Baron Eric de Rothschild**

Through the years, Château Lafite sustained natural disasters, wars and crises. After World War II, the Barons de Rothschild recovered possession of Château Lafite Rothschild and revitalized the estate's business. Baron Elie led a program to restore the vineyards and buildings while fully restructuring the property's administration. Baron Eric de Rothschild, nephew of Baron Elie, currently manages the estate with his daughter Saskia.

## INTEGRITY

Château Lafite Rothschild, owned by the Rothschild family for five generations, was acquired by Baron James de Rothschild in 1868. The existence of Lafite as a medieval fief dates back to the 14th century; at the beginning of the 18th century Lafite's wine was already being sold in London, where it was a favorite of the Prime Minister, Robert Walpole. In France, Lafite soon became known as the "King's wine", after being introduced to the Court at Versailles by Maréchal Richelieu. The classification of the Grands Crus Classés, prepared on the occasion of the 1855 Universal Exhibition in Paris, officially ranked Château Lafite Rothschild as the "Premier des Premiers".

## PEOPLE

Today, it is the 6th generation of the Rothschild family, in Saskia de Rothschild, Baron Eric's daughter, who is at the head of Château Lafite and Domaines Barons de Rothschild (Lafite).



Eric Kohler, Technical Director of the Bordeaux Châteaux, is assisted by oenologist and winemaker Christophe Congé, and vineyard manager Louis Caillard.

## CURIOSITY

The vineyards have been replanted and restored, while the use of fertilizers and herbicides have been reevaluated. In the chai, a stainless steel tank complex alongside oak tanks, and a new circular aging chai were constructed under the supervision of Catalan architect Ricardo Bofill. The new chai design style was acclaimed for its innovative character and uncompromising spirit and can hold 2,200 barrels.

## TERROIR

The estate encompasses 440 acres, 276 acres being vineyards planted to Cabernet Sauvignon (70%), Merlot (25%), Cabernet Franc (3%) and Petit Verdot (2%). The vineyard features three major areas: the hillsides around the Chateau, the adjacent Carruades plateau to the west and 11 acres in neighboring Saint Estephe. The average age of the grapevines is 39 years old, but it should be noted that vines younger than 10 years old are not used in the Grand Vin. This means that the average age of the vines used in the Grand Vin (Château Lafite Rothschild) is closer to 45 years. The oldest plot, called "La Gravière", was planted in 1886.

