

DOMAINES BARONS DE ROTHSCHILD (LAFITE)

# LES LÉGENDES

SAINT-EMILION 2018

## BACKGROUND

The Rothschild family has been producing wine in Bordeaux since 1868. For six generations, they got to know this beautiful landscape and understand the unique traits of the vines from each appellation. Three decades ago, the family was inspired to create a new wine series, where each wine would be the epitome of the appellation it came from. Their motivation was simple: to ensure wine lovers everywhere could dive into Bordeaux and taste the originality of each appellation. *And so, the Les Légendes range was born.*

The production of Les Légendes wines is supervised by our oenologist, Diane Flamand. The new Les Légendes range has greatly benefited from Diane's ambition to create long term partnerships with vineyard growers around each appellation. Domaines Barons de Rothschild (Lafite) has made excellence in wine-making practices the basis of its development. Diane elaborates wines following the same approach: passion, discipline, humility, excellence and harmony.

For over 150 years, our master winemakers have been crafting the finest Bordeaux wines. Generations of local knowledge have taught our grape growers that the key to creating sensational Saint-Émilion wine lives underground. The limestone rich soil on the Right Bank is ideal for growing the Merlot grape. It's secrets like these that produce the voluptuous wines that Saint-Émilion is famed for.

## APPELLATION

Saint-Emilion, France

## VARIETAL COMPOSITION

90% Merlot, 10% Cabernet Franc

## TERROIR & VINTAGE NOTES

Saint Emilion is nestled on the right bank of the Dordogne, 25 miles east of Bordeaux; It presents a great diversity of soils due to erosion, between a fossil rich limestone bedrock, sandy-gravelly hilltops, clay limestone and sand on clay. The resulting wines range from fine and aromatic to more souple and generous.

Despite particularly capricious weather conditions, 2018 is one of Bordeaux's great vintages. An exceptionally rainy winter and spring resulted in an unprecedented threat of mildew, and there were violent hailstorms in May and July that destroyed 80% of the crop in some vineyards. Fortunately, the situation improved over the summer, which was the hottest since 2003. Conditions were then ideal for the grapes to ripen thanks to the contrast between warm, sunny days and cool nights, resulting in good aromatic concentration. Wines produced from the cooler terroirs (clay and limestone), such as in Saint-Emilion, were among the most successful of the vintage.

## WINEMAKING

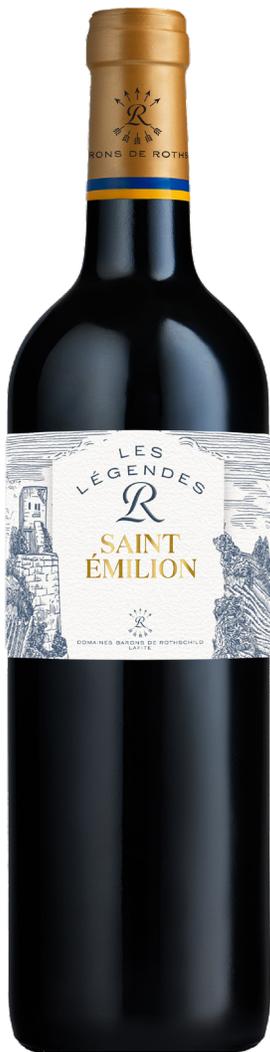
This wine is made in the traditional Bordeaux methods: grapes are destemmed and crushed before being placed in thermoregulated stainless steel tanks for fermentation. Fermentation is conducted at 86°F and is followed by three weeks of maceration with regular pump-over to ensure a gentle extraction of the tannins.

## AGEING

After malolactic fermentation, 60% of the wine is transferred into French oak barrels, partly new for a period of 12 months.

## TASTING NOTES

An elegant blend of Merlot and Cabernet Franc with a distinguished bouquet of red fruit and toast. Rich and smooth on the palate, it offers silky tannins and a long aftertaste.



## WINEMAKER

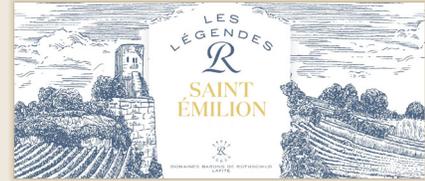
Diane Flamand

## TECHNICAL DATA

Acidity  
3.44 g/L - pH: 3.60

Alcohol  
14.0%

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