



DOMAINES BARONS DE ROTHSCHILD LAFITE

CHÂTEAU LAFITE ROTHSCHILD

CARRUADES DE LAFITE 2010

BACKGROUND

Carruades de Lafite features characteristics similar to those of the esteemed Château Lafite Rothschild, but with their own personality linked to a higher percentage of Merlot in its composition, and plots of land that are clearly identified as producing Carruades. The origin of the name comes from the Carruades plateau, the name of a group of plots adjacent to the chateau's best vineyards, purchased in 1845 by Château Lafite. In the 20th century, the Carruades were marketed separately from Château Lafite before being integrated. The name Carruades was adopted as the name of Château Lafite Rothschild's second wine, which was called "Moulin des Carruades" prior to the 1980's.

APPELLATION

Pauillac (Bordeaux), France

VARIETAL COMPOSITION

51% Cabernet Sauvignon, 42% Merlot, 5% Cabernet Franc, 2% Petit Verdot

TERROIR & VINTAGE NOTES

2010 began with a cold, relatively wet winter, resulting in a slightly later bud break than in 2009. Growth was then boosted by dry, sunny weather in April. May and June were characterized by alternating periods of rain and sunshine. June began with a cold spell that complicated the flowering of the Merlot, resulting in decreased flowering and uneven grape size. Fortunately, July was very dry (less than 1" of rain) with relatively high temperatures, which helped the vines to catch up. August and September were very dry, with beautiful daytime temperatures and cool nights creating ideal conditions for the grapes to slowly reach optimum ripeness. The harvests took place from September 24th to October 13th.

WINEMAKING

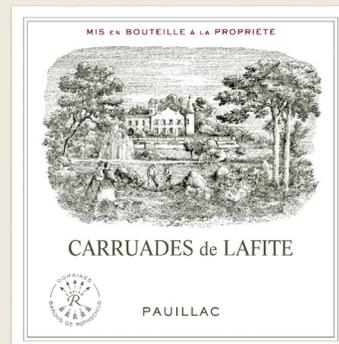
Pumping over and maceration times were adapted to each vat, according to the plot and the level of ripeness of the tannins. Alcohol and malolactic fermentation both took place in wooden and stainless steel vats with temperature control. Maceration lasted 15-20 days.

AGEING

18 months in barrels: 10% new barrels and 90% in one use barrels crafted at the Domaines Barons de Rothschild Lafite cooperage.

TASTING NOTES

Floral bouquet. Notes of ripe fruit, blackcurrants, cedar, and spices. A dense, rich wine with very refined, well-integrated tannins. Excellent length; overall, an elegant, balanced wine.



95 JAMES SUCKLING
February 2013
POINTS

- 94 PTS WINE ADVOCATE 2/13
- 93 PTS WINE SPECTATOR 3/13
- 92 PTS WINE ENTHUSIAST 5/13
- 90 PTS VINOUS 7/13

CURRENT WINEMAKER

Eric Kohler

TECHNICAL DATA

Yield
51 hl/ha
Acidity
3.50 g/L
Alcohol
13.5%

