

DOMAINES BARONS DE ROTHSCHILD LAFITE

CHÂTEAU LAFITE ROTHSCHILD

CARRUADES DE LAFITE 2014

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

58% Cabernet Sauvignon, 42% Merlot

WINEMAKING & VINTAGE NOTES

2014 was marked by significant rainfall from November to February which restored groundwater reserves, that had already been substantially replenished by average or higher than average rain in 2012 and 2013. Temperatures remained above normal and the vines missed the hearty winter frosts. Bud break was early, followed by uniform flowering during the first week of June, spurred on by a rise in temperatures. The onset of ripening occurred over two periods, first in late July and then again after August 15th, creating considerable variation in the degrees of ripeness. A great deal of sorting work was carried out by our teams keep only grapes suited to the production our Pauillac grand vins. Harvests took place from September 22nd - October 10th.

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, stainless steel and concrete 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

Beautiful deep, dark color. The attack on the palate is full-bodied, with a pleasant roundness. The wine evolves well; the tannins are still vigorous but will soon soften. Well-defined notes of blackberries and blackcurrants. The length is already good and should develop further in the bottle.

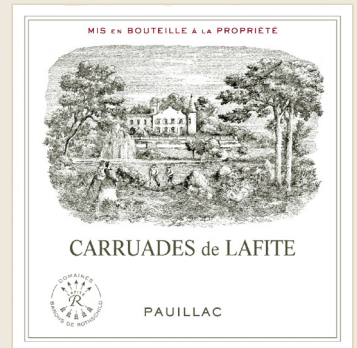


CURRENT WINEMAKER

Eric Kohler

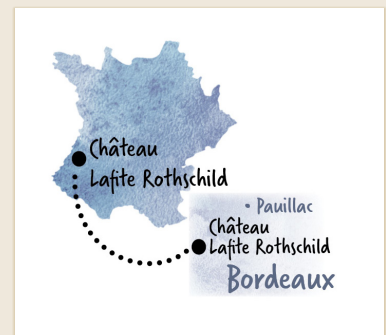
Technical Data

Acidity
3.92 g/L
Alcohol
12.5%



94 **CELLAR SELECTION**
POINTS WINE ENTHUSIAST
April 2017

94 PTS JAMES SUCKLING 2/17
91 PTS WINE SPECTATOR 3/17
90 PTS VINOUS 2/17



TAUB FAMILY
SELECTIONS