



DOMAINES BARONS DE ROTHSCHILD LAFITE

CHÂTEAU LAFITE ROTHSCHILD

CARRUADES DE LAFITE 2011

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

55% Cabernet Sauvignon, 39% Merlot, 3.5% Cabernet Franc, 2.5% Petit Verdot

WINEMAKING & VINTAGE NOTES

2011 was unusual and required all of our technical teams' vigilance and expertise. A very early vintage, with an exceptionally hot spring, low rainfall at the beginning of the year, but then more in the summer, and a persistent threat of powdery mildew. Finally, just as we were getting ready to harvest, there was a huge hail storm in the north of Pauillac and Saint Estèphe on September 1st that obliged us to reorganize the schedules. The plots that had been affected had to be picked first; fortunately, the grapes had ripened early, and quality was not compromised. Harvests took place from September 5th - 20th.

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

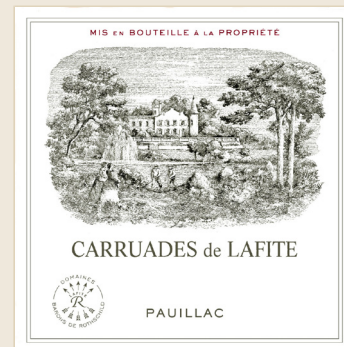
A long, well-rounded, elegant wine. Notes of red fruit and tobacco. Aromas of coffee, tobacco, and spices. The palate is generous and full-bodied with well defined tannins.

CURRENT WINEMAKER

Eric Kohler

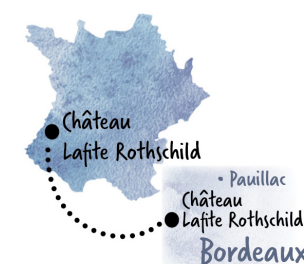
TECHNICAL DATA

Acidity
3.60 g/L
Alcohol
12.51%



91 WINE ENTHUSIAST
POINTS May 2014

90 PTS WINE SPECTATOR 2014
90 PTS JAMES SUCKLING 2/14



TAUB FAMILY
SELECTIONS