



DOMAINES BARONS DE ROTHSCHILD (LAFITE)

# CHÂTEAU LAFITE ROTHSCHILD

CARRUADES DE LAFITE 2009

## 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.

## APELLATION

Pauillac (Bordeaux), France

## VARIETAL COMPOSITION

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

## VINTAGE NOTES

2009 began with a rather warm, very wet spring. The team had to be particularly vigilant in order to protect the vines. Fine, stable weather returned in June and continued throughout the summer. Conditions became drought like, interspersed in July, August and September with welcome periods of light rain. Plenty of sunshine, with temperatures that were high without becoming scorching, and fairly cool nights enabled slow ripening that pushed the start of the harvests back to the end of September. Exceptionally favorable weather conditions, crowned by harvests in the sun, made for a vintage that is certain to be outstanding. The harvests took place from September 23rd to October 8th.

## WINEMAKING

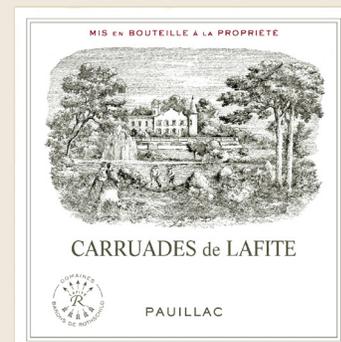
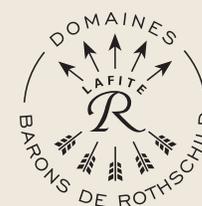
Pumping over and maceration times were adapted to each vat, according to the plot and the level of ripeness of the tannins. Alcohol and malolactic fermentation both took place in wooden and stainless steel vats with temperature control. Maceration lasted 15-20 days.

## 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

Superb bright flavors. The mouth gradually takes shape, full-bodied and generous at first, then presenting ripe tannins, well-developed structure and a very fruity finish.



**95** JAMES SUCKLING  
POINTS March 2012

**93** PTS WINE ADVOCATE 12/11  
**92** PTS WINE SPECTATOR  
**92** PTS WINE ENTHUSIAST 3/11

## WINEMAKER

Charles Chevalier

## TECHNICAL DATA

Yield  
47 hl/ha  
Acidity  
3.82 g/L  
Alcohol  
13.6%

