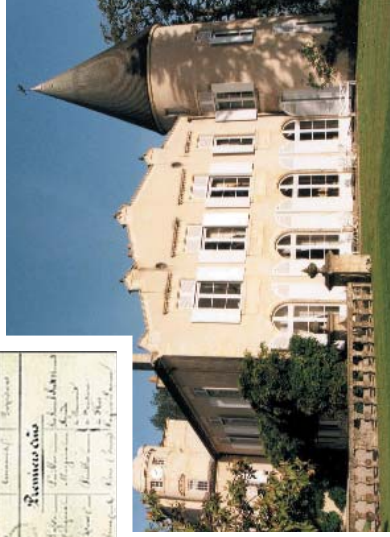


# CHÂTEAU LAFITE ROTHSCHILD

LES DOMAINES BARONS DE ROTHSCHILD (LAFITE)  
PAUILLAC, FRANCE



Château Lafite Rothschild is one of only four classified first growths and thus the designation as 1st er Cru. The vintage rankings of the Universal Paris Exposition in 1855 officially gave Lafite the rating as "Leader among fine wines".

The first known reference to Lafite dates to 1234 with Gombaud de Lafite and Lafite's mention as a medieval fief dates to the 14th century. Baron James de Rothschild purchased Château Lafite in 1868 and has remained under Rothschild family ownership since.

Through the years, Château Lafite sustained natural disasters, wars and crises. After World War II, the Barons de Rothschild recovered possession of Château Lafite Rothschild and revitalized the estate's business. Baron Elie led a program to restore the vineyards and buildings while fully restructuring the property's administration.



Baron Eric de Rothschild, nephew of Baron Elie, currently manages the estate and Rothschild properties around the world. Baron Eric's management of the estate has made forward strides through research and the gradual addition of a new technical team. The vineyards have been replanted and restored, while the use of fertilizers and herbicides have been reevaluated. In the chais, a stainless steel tank complex alongside oak tanks, and a new circular aging chai were constructed under the supervision of Catalan architect Ricardo Bofill. The new chai design style was acclaimed for its innovative character and uncompromising spirit and can hold 2,200 barrels.

The estate encompasses 178 hectares, 103 hectares being vineyards planted to Cabernet Sauvignon (71%), Merlot (25%), Cabernet Franc (3%) and Petit Verdot (1%). The vineyard features three major areas: the hillsides around the Chateau, the adjacent Carruades plateau to the west and 4.5 hectares in neighboring Saint Estephe.

The average age of the grapevines is 30 years old, over all, however, vines younger than 10 years old (representing 20 hectares) are not used in the Grand Vin. This means the average age of the vines used in the Grand Vin (Château Lafite Rothschild) average 40 years. Also noteworthy is; 18 hectares of vineyards are more than 50 years old. The oldest plot, called "La Gravière", is 115 years old, it was planted in 1886 and two other plots are also over 80 years old.



Château Lafite Rothschild  
*(1st Cru Classe en 1855)*  
Carruades de Lafite

Pasternak Wine Imports . (800) 946-3110  
[www.pasternakwine.com](http://www.pasternakwine.com)

# CHÂTEAU LAFITE ROTHSCHILD

LES DOMAINES BARONS DE ROTHSCHILD (LAFITE)

Pauillac, France



## Château Lafite Rothschild 2008

### THE VINEYARD

The vineyard covering 107 hectares is divided into three separate areas: the hilly ground close to the Château, the plateau of the Carruades and a plot in the commune of Saint Estèphe (special permission was granted to incorporate these wines into the Pauillac appellation). The soil is composed of fine gravel mixed with aeolian sand and planted with four classic Médoc grape varieties: Cabernet Sauvignon (70%), Merlot (25%), Cabernet Franc (3%) and Petit Verdot (2%). The average age of the vines is 35 years but those that produce the Grand Vin selection are 45 years or older. The oldest plot, "La Gravière", was planted in 1886. In August 1868, Baron James de Rothschild purchased Château Lafite and it has remained in the family for five generations. The property is currently run by Baron Eric de Rothschild.

### HARVEST & AGEING

The growing season was closely monitored, coming after a severe winter and a spring frost. Flowering was not very productive, constant humidity favored disease and the summer was moderately warm. Fortunately, September was fine, and so it was possible to wait for the grapes to fully ripen, allowing a late harvest. These took place from the 1st to 7th of October for the Merlot, & from the 7th to the 14th of October for Cabernet Sauvignon, the Cabernet Franc was harvested on the 9th, 10th & 14th of October & the Petit Verdot on the 16th of October. 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, and the ageing process was carried out for 20 months in new barrels.

### WINEMAKER'S NOTES

Dominated by red fruit, the nose remains clear, precise and complex. In the mouth, the strength and classic style of this wine become apparent. There is fruit, substance, and tannins that are supple and tight at the same time.

Controlled Appellation: Pauillac

Grape Varieties: Cabernet Sauvignon 84 %, Merlot 15 %, Petit Verdot 1 %

Yield: 46 hl/ha

Bottling: June 2010

Alcoholic degree: 12.5 %

Total acidity: 3.5 g/l

Production : approximately 21,000 cases

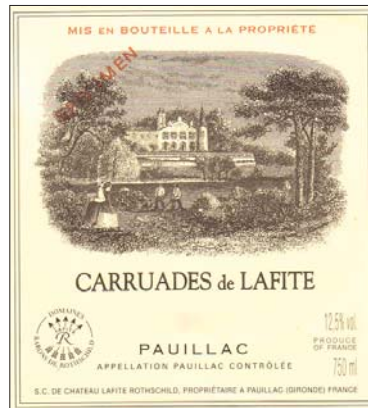


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# CHÂTEAU LAFITE ROTHSCHILD

LES DOMAINES BARONS DE ROTHSCHILD (LAFITE)

Pauillac, France



## Carruades de Lafite 2008

### THE VINEYARD

Given the refined selection of fine wines after two decades, the Carruades feature characteristics similar to those of the fine wine, 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 adopted as the name of Château Lafite Rothschild's second wine, which was initially called "Moulin des Carruades" before 1980's.

### HARVEST & AGEING

The growing season was closely monitored, coming after a severe winter and some spring frost. Flowering was not very productive, constant humidity favored disease and the summer was moderately warm. Fortunately, September was fine and so it was possible to wait for the grapes to fully ripen, with late harvests. These harvests took place from October 1st to October 16th. 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, and the ageing process was carried out for 18 months in barrels: 10% new barrels and 90% in barrels of one use.

### WINEMAKER'S NOTES

A wonderful dense and shiny color. An expressive nose full of beautiful red and smoked aromas. Straightforward and very well structured, dense and lingering aftertaste in evolution. A very well and lively wine with a pleasant silky ending.

Controlled Appellation: Pauillac

Grape Varietal: Merlot 45 %, Cabernet Sauvignon 51 %, Cabernet Franc 1 %, Petit Verdot 3 %

Yield: 49 hl/ha

Alcoholic: 12.5 %

Total acidity : 3.8 g/l

Bottling: May 2010

Production : approximately 24,500 cases



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# CHÂTEAU LAFITE ROTHSCHILD

## 2008

### PAUILLAC, FRANCE



*As seen in...*



# 98

pts.

*A candidate for the -wine of the vintage,- the 2008 should have been purchased before it began to soar in value because of the significance of the number 8 in the Chinese culture (denoting good luck). Representing 40% of the production, this blend of 83% Cabernet Sauvignon, 13% Merlot and 4% Cabernet Franc offers aromas of high quality unsmoked cigar tobacco, lead pencil shavings, creme de cassis, earth, cedar and asphalt. Full, rich and stunningly concentrated, I doubt it is inferior to the 2010, just more classic as well as slightly more forward and a degree weaker in alcoholic potency (12.5% versus 13.5%). The 2008 should be relatively drinkable in 6-10 years as it is already showing remarkable complexity and breed, and will last for 30-35 years...at the minimum.*

*Wine Advocate # 194 - May 2011*



# CHÂTEAU LAFITE ROTHSCHILD

2008

Pauillac, France



**92**pts

AS SEEN IN...

**Wine Spectator**  
www.winespectator.com

*Supple and harmonious already, with inviting, almost plush blackberry, plum and fig fruit notes carried by fine-grained, lightly cedary structure. Black tea and sandalwood flash on the finish. Poised now, but has the stuffing for more time in bottle. Drink now through 2020.*

*J.M. - April 30, 2011*



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## Cellar Selection

# CHÂTEAU LAFITE ROTHSCHILD

## 2008

### PAUILLAC, FRANCE



*As seen in...*



# 97

 pts

*Elegance in a glass, this is very upright in structure with enticing acidity and black berry fruits. It has weight as well as richness. No question about the aging potential of this superb wine.*

*April 2011*

# CARRUADES DE LAFITE

2008

LES DOMAINES BARONS DE ROTHSCHILD (LAFITE)  
PAUILLAC, FRANCE



*As seen in...*

  
eRobertParker.com

**91** pts.

*A blend of 51% Cabernet Sauvignon, 35% Merlot and the rest Petit Verdot and Cabernet Franc, the 2008 exhibits graphite, sandalwood, black and red currant, chocolate and damp earth characteristics in its elegant, medium to full-bodied, fresh, lively personality. It is a delicious, luscious, already evolved wine to drink over the next 15+ years.*

*Wine Advocate # 194 - May 2011*

# CARRUADES DE LAFITE ROTHSCHILD 2008

PAUILLAC, FRANCE



*As seen in...*



**92**pts

*Firm tannins and great freshness, with a touch of bitter chocolate as well as spice and tight tannins. This second wine of Lafite is attractively fruity, easily lifting the weight of tannins.*

*April 2011*