

# CHÂTEAU LAFITE-ROTHSCHILD

## PRODUCER

### CHÂTEAU LAFITE-ROTHSCHILD

As one of the original four First Growth Bordeaux designated by the historic 1855 Bordeaux classification, Château Lafite-Rothschild is one of the world's most prestigious wines. One of the château's earliest and most celebrated fans was King Louis XV, who reportedly preferred Lafite-Rothschild above all other wines. Purchased in 1868 by Baron James de Rothschild, the estate has remained in the hands of the Rothschild family ever since. The term "lafite" apparently is derived from "la hite," or little hill in one of the regional dialects used in France in the Middle Ages. The domaines Baron de Rothschild also include Château Rieussec, Château L'Évangile, Château Duhart-Milon, and others in France and Argentina. Château Lafite-Rothschild includes 247.1 acres of vineyards planted in 70% Cabernet Sauvignon, 25% Merlot, 3% Cabernet Franc, and 2% Petit Verdot. The average age of the vines is 40 years. Annual production is 18,000 to 25,000 cases of Château Lafite-Rothschild.

## REGION

### FRANCE, BORDEAUX, PAUILLAC

Pauillac is Bordeaux's most famous appellation, thanks to the fact that it is home to three of the region's fabled first-growth châteaux, Lafite-Rothschild, Mouton-Rothschild and Latour. Perched on the left bank of the Gironde River north of the city of Bordeaux, Pauillac is centered around the commune of Pauillac and includes about 3,000 acres of vineyards. The Bordeaux classification of 1855 named 18 classified growths, including the three above mentioned First Growths. Cabernet Sauvignon is the principal grape grown, followed by Merlot. The soil is mostly sandy gravel mixed with marl and iron. Robert M. Parker Jr. has written that "the textbook Pauillac would tend to have a rich, full-bodied texture, a distinctive bouquet of black currants, licorice and cedary scents, and excellent aging potential."

## TYPE

Red Wine, Bordeaux Red Blends (Claret), Premier Cru (First Growth)

## VINTAGE

1990 Château Lafite-Rothschild

