

Le Petit Haut Lafitte

red 2014

Wine from the young vines of
Château Smith Haut Lafitte



Created during the blending process of Chateau Smith Haut Lafitte, Le Petit Haut Lafitte is vinified and aged with the same care as the Grand Vin. From the vineyard to the cellar, all the production techniques are identical.

Yield: 35 hl/ha, before selection of the three wines: Chateau Smith Haut Lafitte, Le Petit Haut Lafitte and Les Hauts de Smith.

Blend

60 % Cabernet Sauvignon
40 % Merlot

Vinification of whole berries in small wooden vats at 26-28°C for 4 to 6 weeks, extraction through pigeages and/or remontages.

Ageing 14 months in French oak barrels (20 % new) made at the Chateau onsite cooperage.

Better enjoyed after 2017.

The vintage 2014

In 2014, weather conditions were surprising: mild and rainy winter, cooler in May, wet and hot in June, in July moisture and freshness, a fresh and dry month in August and finally a beautiful Indian summer in September/October.

Some stressful situation sometimes requested exigence but this vintage faced the constraints of the weather and has revealed all the potential of our work in Bio-Precision.

Climate jolts were amortized by our land: the roots going deeply into the ground are less feeling the climatic variations which permit a softer maturation.

After a rather early cycle until the bloom, and thanks to the freshness of summer we started the harvest from the 24th of September with the young vines of Merlot.

The beautiful Indian summer allowed us until October to harvest the great Merlot, the Petit Verdot and the Cabernet Sauvignon to finish with the Cabernet Franc on October 18th. This unexpected Indian permitting to reach full maturity.

Comments by Fabien Teitgen, Technical Director

The Petit Haut Lafitte red 2014 has a beautiful dark red color.

The nose expresses pretty red berries, strawberries, and gooseberries. Then the stirring reveals a different complexity with tobacco leaves, star anise, spices and smoky aromas. The mouth is stretched by a good tannic structure, compensated with a good concentration and a nice creaminess .

This well balanced and charming wine, quite reveals our typical « Graves » terroir with its special note of flint.

Tasting notes

James Suckling	90-91
James Molesworth	88-91
Decanter	17