

# Château Smith Haut Lafitte

## white 2015

Grand Vin de Graves



**Yield:** 30 hl/ha, before selection of the three wines: Château Smith Haut Lafitte, Les Hauts de Smith and Le Petit Haut Lafitte.

### Blend

90 % Sauvignon blanc  
5 % Sauvignon gris  
5 % Semillon

**Vinification:** grapes are hand-picked into small crates and pressed in an oxygen-free environment (to preserve the aromatic potential of the berries) and fermentation takes place in French oak barrels (50% new oak) after a cold settling of the juices.

**Ageing** 12 months on the lees with bâtonnage in barrels (50% new and 50% used for one previous vintage) made at the Chateau onsite cooperage.

**Vine age:** 38 years

## **The 2015 vintage**

The year 2015 was marked by a long drought from March to July and a month of August rather cool and wet, causing early maturation while maintaining a beautiful freshness.

The fresh temperatures, particularly at night during the ripening of the grapes, has preserved the acidity which is essential for the good balance and the tension of our white wines. We also note a high homogeneity of the bud burst, flowering and veraison, characteristic of this vintage, which is a very good qualitative basis !!

The harvest of the white grapes started on August 31st with the young Sauvignons and from the 7th to the 15th September for the old vines. Then, on September 14th we harvested the gray Sauvignon and the Semillon on September 18th. An early, short, and rapid harvest with beautiful weather.

### **Comments by Fabien Teitgen, Technical Director**

Straight from the first nose, this wine brings us toward an aromatic palette of white fruits and flowers: citrus fruits, white peaches, pears and acacia flowers. Then aeration reveals spicier aromas of star anise and eucalyptus.

After a tense and vivid attack, the mouth of concentration and power appears very well-balanced with a beautiful smooth texture. This fresh and elegant wine offers after citrus fruits some white flesh fruits, sweet spices and very complex notes of flint stones and fireplace, characteristic of our gravel terroirs.

### **Tasting notes**

James Molesworth WS	95-98
James Suckling	96-97
Neal Martin	94-96
Jeannie Cholee	95
Jancis Robinson	17
Decanter	96
Vinous - Antonio Galloni	92-95+