

CHATEAU
SMITH HAUT LAFITTE
GRAND CRU CLASSÉ



● Smith Haut Lafitte 2019



Yield: 36 hl/ha, prior to selection for the estate's three wines: Chateau Smith Haut Lafitte, Les Hauts de Smith and Le Petit Haut Lafitte.

Blend:

60% Cabernet Sauvignon

35% Merlot

4% Cabernet Franc

1% Petit Verdot

Winemaking: Whole grapes are fermented at 28°C in small wooden vats with extraction by manual punching down.

Aging: 18 months in barrels (60% are new barrels produced in our in-house cooperage), with aging on lees. After being racked a single time, wine is aged according to its profile.

Age of vines: 38 years old

Tasting notes from Fabien Teitgen, Winemaker:

The 2019 vintage witnessed two ripening phases. The first took place in hot, dry conditions, resulting in small, concentrated grapes with rich tannins. The second occurred in cooler and slightly wetter conditions, leading to gentle ripening, thus preserving freshness and softening tannins. The Merlots have great substance and power, while the Cabernets contribute length and freshness.

This wine is a very dark red, almost black colour.

The bouquet is expressive, with black fruit notes (blackberry, blackcurrant, blueberry) accompanied by cherry overtones. Complex spicy aromas then come to the fore (clove, cinnamon, liquorice), underscored by subtle hints of gun flint, very emblematic of the Graves terroir.

A rather "approachable" wine, powerful, broad-based and concentrated with a smooth texture that caresses the palate. The mid-palate is full-bodied and equally concentrated, paving the way for a lovely long aftertaste. A decidedly delicious and lively wine combining power, concentration, and smoothness! The aftertaste is very long, showcasing great complexity where spices and empyreumatic notes typical of the terroir nicely balance out fruity overtones.

2019 Smith Haut Lafitte: Elegance and smoothness that do not preclude power.