



Lafon Rochet 2015

Region	Bordeaux
Subregion	St Estephe
Colour	Red
Type	Still



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Tasting Notes

The 2015 Lafon-Rochet, which was bottled in May 2017, is a wine that has developed wonderfully in bottle. This was the first year under organic viticulture (although Basile mentioned that they would not necessarily ask for certification). Here, it has a well-defined bouquet, sultry black fruit at first but a few swirls and it becomes more expressive, with scents of damp earth and woodland complementing the aromas. The palate is medium-bodied with fine tannin, a keen bead of acidity, very harmonious and elegant toward the sappy finish, a hint of black olive and seaweed on the aftertaste. This is an understated gem that should not be overlooked. Anticipated maturity: 2020 - 2040.

Score: 92

Neal Martin, -, March 2018

The 2015 Lafon Rochet is a blend of 54% Cabernet Sauvignon, 35% Merlot, 6% Cabernet Franc and 5% Petit Verdot, picked between 25 September and 9 October. Matured in 40% to 50% new oak from eight coopers including Stockinger since last year, it has a dense blackberry and boysenberry scented bouquet that is a little more voluptuous than its peers. The palate is again quite dense with "stocky" tannin, obdurate and a little hard at the moment, structured and clearly a Lafon-Rochet that is built for the long-term. It will need several years to just lose its brutishness. Drink 2025-2050

Score: 90/92

Neal Martin, Wine Advocate (224), April 2016

Very perfumed with blackberries, blueberries and cloves. Dried lavender as well. Full body and linear and refined tannins. Pretty spices come together with the clean fruit at the end. Hard not to drink now but two or three years of bottle age will pull it together. Drink in 2020.

Score: 93

James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com, February 2018

A firm and silky red with blueberry and dark chocolate aromas and flavors. Full to medium body, serious core of fruit for the vintage.

Score: 91/92

James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com, March 2016

The 2015 Lafon-Rochet is gorgeous. Beautifully layered and polished in the glass, the 2015 oozes with pedigree. The flavors are bright and beautifully delineated throughout. Rose petal, mint, savory herb and bright, red-toned fruit add to the wine's vivid, nuanced personality. In 2015, Lafon-Rochet is all class. The blend is 54% Cabernet Sauvignon, 35% Merlot, 6% Cabernet Franc and 4% Petit Verdot. This is a terrific showing from Basile Tesseron and consulting winemaker Jean-Claude Berrouet. 2020 - 2035

Score: 94

Antonio Galloni, vinous.com, February 2018

One of the potential sleepers of the vintage, Basile Tesseron's 2015 Lafon-Rochet is a total knock-out. Explosive, deep and powerful, the 2015 possesses remarkable richness and intensity. A host of black cherry, smoke, gravel, menthol, tar and licorice notes abound. I tasted the 2015 four times over two weeks. During that time, the wine seemed to acquire more and more freshness as well as finesse. There is little question Lafon-Rochet is one of the stars of Saint-Estèphe in 2015. The blend is 54% Cabernet Sauvignon, 35% Merlot, 6% Cabernet Franc and 4% Petit Verdot. Jean-Claude Berrouet consults.

Score: 92/95

Antonio Galloni, vinous.com, April 2016

Racy and lively with stones and strong St-Estèphe signature. Dry finish. With lots of personality.
Drink 2023-2036

Score: 17

Jancis Robinson MW, JancisRobinson.com, November 2017

Particularly dark. Rather beguiling. Perhaps a bit more evolved than most but rewarding. Nice lift at the end. Very fruity/juicy.
Drink 2023-2037

Score: 16.5+

Jancis Robinson MW, JancisRobinson.com, April 2016

The medium garnet-purple colored 2015 Lafon-Rochet is reduced on the nose to begin, with tar and earth aromas over black fruits and herbs. The medium-bodied palate is vibrant and refreshing with firm, grainy tannins. 2018 - 2032

Score: 91

Lisa Perrotti-Brown MW, Wine Advocate (Interim Fe), February 2018

Recent vintages here at this classed growth St Estephe have been amongst the best ever and now the latest generation of the family - Basile Tesseron - has become involved with the management. The new consultant is the legendary Jean-Claude Berrouet of Chateau Petrus - his first job on the left bank. This striking property with its yellow walls is just along the road from Cos d'Estournel and overlooks the vineyards of Lafite. En primeur prices remain reasonable. The 40 hectare vineyard is planted 55% Cabernet Sauvignon, 38% Merlot with a little Cabernet Franc and Petit Verdot. They believe that this wine resembles their 2010 but with riper tannins and a bit less density. Deep blueish-purple in colour with a nose of fresh blackcurrant, black pepper and cinnamon. The palate has a juicy core of blue and black fruits with structured, firm tannins providing a strong framework typical of St Estephe. Classic and Medocain with a savoury, pencil shaving finish.

Score: 15.5

Farr Vintners, March 2016

A gem from Saint-Estèphe is the 2015 Château Lafon-Rochet and it's certainly one of the top wines from this appellation in 2015. Elegant, medium to full-bodied, beautifully pure and refined, it offers impressive notes of sweet dark fruits, crème de cassis, classy oak and a kiss of minerality. It's the finesse and quality of tannin, as well as its solid mid-palate, that sets this beauty apart. This wine is 54% Cabernet Sauvignon, 35% Merlot, 6% Cabernet Franc and the rest Petit Verdot, and it's hidden little gem worth tracking down! 2020 - 2035

Score: 94

Jeb Dunnuck, JebDunnuck.com, November 2017

The nose is fresh and firm and the start of the palate tight. The black fruits in the middle are sweet cassis and black cherry and although a fair weight of fruit at

the back the finish lacks a bit of generosity.

Score: 89/93

Derek Smedley MW, DerekSmedleyMW.co.uk, April 2016

Definitely among the best St. Estèphes in 2015, this is a classic expression of the appellation, which shows no sign of rain-affected dilution at all. Rich tannins, plush, perfumed fruit and refined, granular tannins. A triumph over the elements. Drink: 2022-32

Score: 94

Tim Atkin MW, timatkin.com, April 2016

Very smart balance and very good intensity make this one of the leading wines from the commune. It is a shade darker than many of its counterparts and the earth and spice give it a lot more complexity than many of the other wines at this price point. The length is considerable and the silkiness of the tannins and pert acidity make it refreshing and super-long on the finish. It will mature fairly early by comparison to the 2014, but hold for many years to come.

Score: 17.5

Matthew Jukes, Matthew Jukes' Blog, April 2016

Please note that these tasting notes/scores are not intended to be exhaustive and in some cases they may not be the most recently published figures. However, we always do our best to add latest scores and reviews when these come to our attention. We advise customers who wish to purchase wines based simply on critical reviews to carry out further research into the latest reports.

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Safra 2015. Visita ao Château Lafon Rochet em 13/06/2018. Tour Médoc.