

1994 Lafite-Rothschild

Lafite-Rothschild
Pauillac, Bordeaux, France

Wine Advocate #109 (Feb 1997) **Robert Parker**

90 points **Drink 2010-2030**

Because Lafite-Rothschild (1) tends to lack the weight of many wines of the northern Medoc, and (2) is never a flashy, ostentatious style of wine, it is often more difficult to evaluate when young than some of its neighbors. Made from nearly 100% Cabernet Sauvignon, this dark ruby/purple-colored wine is stubbornly backward, unappealing, and severe and astringent on the palate. There is plenty of weight, and the wine possesses admirable purity, with no suggestion of herbaceousness or underripe fruit, but the wine's personality refuses to be coaxed from the glass. The 1994 Lafite may turn out to be austere and disappointing flavor-wise, but possesses a fabulous set of aromatics (does that sound reminiscent of the 1961, another Lafite that was primarily Cabernet Sauvignon?). I am not giving up on this wine, but purchasers should be willing to wait 15-20 years before pulling a cork. Anticipated maturity: 2010-2030.

1992 Lafite-Rothschild

Lafite-Rothschild
Pauillac, Bordeaux, France

Wine Advocate #96 (Dec 1994) **Robert Parker**

89 points **Drink 1995-2013**

In 1992 only 36% of the harvest was utilized, resulting in a deeply-colored wine with a nearly exceptional cedary, chocolatey, cassis-character, medium body, surprisingly concentrated flavors, as well as the classic Lafite aromatic profile. If discounted, readers should take the opportunity to experience Lafite's finesse in a softer, more precocious vintage. The 1992 Lafite should drink well in 2-3 years and last for 12-20.

1989 Lafite-Rothschild (1.PLATZ)

Lafite-Rothschild
Pauillac, Bordeaux, France

Wine Advocate #109 (Feb 1997) **Robert Parker**

90 points **Drink 2006-2025**

As I suspected, the 1989 and 1990 vintages of Lafite-Rothschild have gone dormant. Both wines were among the more closed, backward examples in my blind tasting. The 1989 Lafite is also outstanding, but closed, with the tannin more elevated, and the wine so stubbornly reticent as to make evaluation almost impossible. Lafite's 1989 was far more easy to taste and understand several years ago. It appears to have gone completely to sleep. This medium ruby-colored, medium-bodied wine reveals new oak in the nose, and a spicy finish. It is a quintessentially elegant, restrained, understated style of Lafite. Anticipated maturity: 2006-2025.

1987 Lafite-Rothschild

Lafite-Rothschild
Pauillac, Bordeaux, France

Bordeaux Book, 3rd Edition (1998) Robert Parker

87 points Drink 1990-1999

I would not be surprised to see this wine fill out with several additional years in the bottle, largely because Lafite is a notoriously bad performer in the first few years after bottling. Out of cask, the 1987 was the most complex wine I tasted from this vintage, but now, the nose seems only a fraction of what it was from cask. The lead-pencil, vanillin-scented, leafy, cedary bouquet is just beginning to emerge. In the mouth, the wine is light, displaying a soft, supple texture, some acidity, but little tannin. It will probably improve, and may ultimately merit a higher score. Anticipated maturity: Now-1999. Last tasted, 10/90.

1983 Lafite-Rothschild

Lafite-Rothschild
Pauillac, Bordeaux, France

Bordeaux Book, 3rd Edition (1998) Robert Parker

93 points Drink 1997-2030

Finally, the 1983 Lafite is beginning to shed its tannin. The wine exhibits a deep ruby/garnet color with only a slight lightening at the edge. The intoxicatingly perfumed nose of lead pencil, pain grille, red and black fruits, minerals, and roasted herbs is provocative. In the mouth, this wine displays considerable body for a Lafite, plenty of power, and a fleshy, rich, sweet mid-palate. Long, elegant, plump, and surprisingly fleshy, this outstanding example of Lafite seems largely forgotten given the number of

high quality vintages during the golden decade of the eighties. Anticipated maturity: Now-2030. Last tasted 3/97

1979 Lafite-Rothschild

Lafite-Rothschild
Pauillac, Bordeaux, France

Bordeaux Book, 3rd Edition (1998) Robert Parker

87 points Drink 1997-2012

I overrated this wine when it was young, and have not been as pleased with its evolution in the bottle. The wine has retained a cool climate high acidity, giving it a more compressed personality than I had envisioned. The color remains a dark ruby/garnet, but the nose has taken on a more vegetal, earthy note to go along with the new oak and sweet red and black currant personality. The wine's crisp acidity keeps its tannic edge aggressive. There is already some amber at the edge of the wine's color. Anticipated maturity: Now-2012. Last tasted 10/97

1992 Latour

Latour
Pauillac, Bordeaux, France

Wine Advocate #96 (Dec 1994) Robert Parker

88 points Drink 1993-2008

Only 50% of the 1992 harvest went into the "grand vin." The result is a sweet, expansive, rich, medium-bodied, surprisingly supple Latour with the tell-tale English walnut, blackcurrant, and mineral-scented nose, very good to excellent flavor concentration, low acidity and moderate tannin in the finish. This is an extremely well-made, approachable style of Latour that should age well for 10-15 years. It may develop even further, thus justifying an even higher score.

1991 Latour

Latour
Pauillac, Bordeaux, France

Wine Advocate #91 (Feb 1994) Robert Parker

89 points Drink 1999-2009

After Latour's exquisite performance in 1990, the 1991 is somewhat of a let-down. Nevertheless, it is a candidate for the wine of the vintage because of its concentration and class. After a strict selection, only 11,500 cases were made. The wine offers a dense, dark ruby color, and a reticent but promising bouquet of black-cherries, cassis, minerals, roasted nuts, spices, and subtle herbs. Medium-bodied, with excellent richness, fine glycerin, and aggressive tannin, this ripe, muscular, beefy 1991 needs 5-6 years to shed its tannin; it should last for 15 or more.

1987 Latour

Latour
Pauillac, Bordeaux, France

Bordeaux Book, 3rd Edition (1998) Robert Parker

86 points Drink 1991-2010

The 1987 Latour was made from 75 percent Cabernet Sauvignon and 25 percent Merlot, without any Cabernet Franc or Petit Verdot used in the blend. The wine has a deep ruby color, and a surprisingly backward yet promising bouquet of black currants, spicy oak, and herbs. In the mouth, it is medium bodied, exhibits more power and tannin than many wines in this vintage, and finishes with surprising authority. It is one of the few 1987s that I find not ready to drink. This is a notable success for Latour, comparable to their 1983 and 1985. Anticipated maturity: Now-2010. Last tasted, 4/91.

1984 Latour (3.PLATZ ex aequo)

Latour
Pauillac, Bordeaux, France

Bordeaux Book, 3rd Edition (1998) Robert Parker

84 points Drink 1989-1998

Curiously, the 1984 tastes nearly as fine as the lightish 1985. Spicy, woody, mineral, herbal scents and ripe fruit swell in the glass. It has good length and grip, plus adequate tannin for 5-9 years of further cellaring. Anticipated maturity: Now. Last tasted, 3/89.

1981 Latour (3.PLATZ ex aequo)

Latour

Pauillac, Bordeaux, France

Bordeaux Book, 3rd Edition (1998) Robert Parker

88 points Drink 1990-2005

The 1981 tastes remarkably velvety and supple for such a young Latour--not that this is a malevolent occurrence--because the excellence, complexity, and richness of the wine are still present. The color is dark ruby, the bouquet offers plenty of ripe cassis and spicy oak, and the flavor is generous, silky, moderately tannic, and long in the finish. This Latour may turn out to be similar to the 1971. Anticipated maturity: Now-2005. Last tasted, 9/90.

1968 Latour (2.PLATZ)

Latour

Pauillac, Bordeaux, France

Keine Parker-Bewertung