



EDMOND  
DE ROTHSCHILD  
HERITAGE

CHATEAU des LAURETS

## 2006 CHATEAU DES LAURETS BARON



### THE STORY

Since his purchase of Château des Laurets in 2003, Baron Benjamin de Rothschild wanted to reveal the quintessence of this estate by making a special cuvée from the best plots of Merlot. The grapes are picked and sorted by hand, then fermented with all the care and attention worthy of a great-growth. This rare wine, only produced in the best vintages, reflects all the quality of a great Saint-Émilion made primarily from Merlot— a subtle combination of elegance and character.

### THE VINEYARD

VARIETAL COMPOSITION: 100% Merlot

APPELLATION: Puisseguin Saint-Émilion

AREA: 4 ha

SOILS: Limestone and clay

VINE DENSITY: 5,500 vines/ha

VINE AGE: 70+ years

VINE MANAGEMENT: Natural grass cover, this cuvée is made from several plots located in the highest part of the vineyard that receive special attention during pruning, suckering, bud thinning, green harvesting, etc.

HARVEST: Hand-picking at optimum maturity with careful sorting, both in the vineyard and on the mechanical sorting table in the cellar prior to destemming.

### VINIFICATION

FERMENTATION: Cold soaking and ageing in oak vats. Pumping over and pigeage (punching down the cap). Automatic temperature control and post-fermentation micro-oxygenation during maceration. Malolactic fermentation and ageing in new barrels.

AGEING: 16 months, 100% in new barrels

ALCOHOL: 14.5 %

AGEING POTENTIAL: This powerful wine with refined tannin can age for 15-20 years.

### VINTAGE 2006

Generally speaking, 2006 was considered to be fairly mild. A chilly winter saw plenty of rain, however, spring brought cheerier conditions and a hot, dry summer ensued until August delivered a downer as temperatures cooled and rains returned. September, however, saw the beginnings of an Indian summer and warm sunny days readied the grapes for harvest but then the weather delivered a significant blow as downpour after downpour fell throughout Bordeaux. As always, it was our drastic selection which brought out the true spirit of the 2006 vintage.

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