

# Château Mouton Rothschild 2014

CSPC# 832566

750mlx6

13.0% alc./vol.

**Grape Variety**

81% Cabernet Sauvignon, 16% Merlot, 3% Cabernet Franc

**Appellation**

Pauillac

**Classification**

First Growth. Premier Grand Cru Classe in 1855 & in 1973

**Website**

<http://www.chateau-mouton-rothschild.com/>

**General Info**

Château Mouton Rothschild, owned by Baroness Philippine de Rothschild and her children, is regarded as one of the world's greatest wines. The story of Mouton Rothschild is that of a magical combination of soil, climate, and devotion of one man, Baron Philippe de Rothschild (1902-1988), Baroness Philippine's father. In 1853, Baron Nathaniel de Rothschild, from the English branch of the family, bought Château Brane-Mouton and immediately renamed it in Mouton Rothschild. Baron Philippe de Rothschild, when he took over the estate in 1922, decided to devote his life to it and to make Mouton unique, producing the very best wine. In 1924, he was the first to introduce entire chateau bottling. In 1926, he built the majestic 100-metre barrel hall. In 1945, to celebrate the liberation of France, he had the idea of crowning the label of that year's vintage with a V for Victory. Since then, a different label is created for each vintage by famous painters. In 1962, he opened the Museum of Wine in Art. In 1973, he obtained the revision of the 1855 classification so that Mouton would be officially recognized as a First Growth.

**Winemaker**

Philippe Dhalluin

**Vintage**

2014 will be remembered as a year of contrasts.

Spring arrived in due course after a typical Bordeaux winter, though April was much sunnier and drier than the average.

A wet and cool May was followed by a spell of bright and sunny weather, despite some highly localised heavy rainfall, mainly due to storms on 22 and 23 June.

The weather in summer was very changeable. July was generally fine and slightly warmer than the average, whereas August was quite a lot cooler and much less sunny, though drier, than normal.

With the end of August came one of the longest and most exceptional Indian summers in winegrowing memory, bringing a succession of hot, sunny, and dry days which lasted until the end of October.

Warm weather in April encouraged early budbreak, especially for the Merlot, while the extraordinary late season enabled the grapes to reach perfect maturity, retaining all the fruit flavours and favoring phenolic compounds. The harvest took place in ideal conditions, leaving plenty of time to pick the grapes at optimum maturity.

**Vineyards**

The Mouton vineyards incorporate 75 hectares of typical gravelly soil over a base of sand, clay, marl, and limestone. They are situated on a mound or *motte* at an altitude of approximately 40 metres, dizzying heights for the flat and undulating land of the Medoc. It is widely thought that *motte* is the origin of the name Mouton, the local Bordeaux dialect providing us with as many words for mound, hill, or hillock as there are perhaps fish in the *Gironde*. It does not derive, as some rather unkind individuals have postulated (I say unkind because the accusation brings rural, rustic tones), from the French for sheep, *mouton*, although this might be suggested by the grazing pasture that abuts the estate. The vines are 80% Cabernet Sauvignon, 10% Cabernet Franc, 8% Merlot, 2% Petit Verdot, planted at a density of 8500 hectares, with an admirable average age of around 50 years.

**Harvest**

19 September to 9 October 2014

**Maturation**

Once harvested, fermentation is in 225-hectolitre vats of wood, with a maceration of 15 to 25 days. Then comes up to 22 months in oak before bottling.

**Tasting Notes**

The colour is a deep red with a purplish tint. The refined and distinguished nose reveals very mature fruit aromas, pleasantly mingled with subtle spice and vanilla notes. The velvety attack fills the mouth with a mature and smooth body on silky,



<b>Tasting Notes</b>	firm tannins which enfold a satin texture with a hint of minerality. The very long finish displays a harmonious combination of complexity, opulence, and freshness.
<b>Serve with</b>	Chateau Mouton Rothschild is best served at 15.5 degrees Celsius, 60 degrees Fahrenheit. The cool, almost cellar temperature gives the wine more freshness and lift. Chateau Mouton Rothschild is best paired with all types of classic meat dishes, veal, pork, beef, lamb, duck, game, roast chicken, roasted, braised and grilled dishes.
<b>Cellaring</b>	Drink 2014-2034
<b>Scores/Awards</b>	<p><b>96 points</b> - James Molesworth, Wine Spectator - March 31, 2017</p> <p><b>95-98 points</b> - James Molesworth, Wine Spectator - Web Only 2015</p> <p><b>94-96 points</b> - Neal Martin, Wine Advocate #218 - April 29, 2015</p> <p><b>99 points</b> - James Suckling, Wine Spectator - February 2017</p> <p><b>96-97 points</b> - James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com - March 2015</p> <p><b>96 points / Cellar Selection</b> - Roger Voss, Wine Enthusiast - April 1, 2017</p> <p><b>96-98 points</b> - Roger Voss, Wine Enthusiast - March 1, 2015</p> <p><b>17.5+ points</b> - Jancis Robinson, JancisRobinson.com - April 2015</p> <p><b>18.75 (95) points</b> - Steven Spurrier, Decanter.com - June 2015</p> <p><b>95-97 points</b> - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - April 2015</p> <p><b>94-96 points</b> - Jeremy Williams, winewordsandvideotape.com - March 2015</p> <p><b>95 points</b> - Tim Atkin, MW - timatkin.com - April 2015</p> <p><b>18.5 points</b> - Farr Vintner - March 2015</p> <p><b>93-96 points</b> - Derek Smedley, MW - April 2015</p> <p><b>96 points</b> - Jeannie Cho Lee MW, asianpalate.com - March 2015</p> <p><b>97 points</b> - Antonio Galloni, Vinous - February 2017</p> <p><b>93-96 points</b> - Antonio Galloni, Vinous - April 2015</p> <p><b>96-97 points</b> - Falstaff Magazine (score only)</p> <p><b>18.5 points</b> - La Revue du Vin France (score only)</p> <p><b>19 points</b> - Vinum Wine Magazine (score only)</p> <p><b>18.5 points</b> - Bettane &amp; Desseave (score only)</p>
<b>Reviews</b>	<p><i>"This delivers a large core of pure, unadorned cassis, accented by notes of anise, plum cake, mint and bitter plum coulis. The core has serious heft, supported easily by a riveting iron spine that shows superb length through the finish. A prodigious display of power and cut. Best from 2022 through 2040."</i></p> <p>- JM, Wine Spectator</p> <p><i>"This captures the pure, distilled essence of Cabernet Sauvignon, with a racy core of red and black currant fruit that almost struts alone, but there's ample roasted apple wood and iron deeply buried in the background, which should emerge with time. The finish has terrific delineation, with a mouthwatering edge despite clearly abundant tannins. The focus on purity in this wine is what's most impressive over the last several vintages. Tasted non-blind. Score range: 95-98"</i></p> <p>- JM, Wine Spectator</p> <p><i>"The Château Mouton-Rothschild 2014 contains more tannin than the 2010 according to winemaker Philippe Dhalluin, although he stressed that this does not imply that they were finer tannin. The blend is 81% Cabernet Sauvignon, 16% Merlot and 3% Cabernet Franc and it will of course, be matured in 100% new oak. The alcohol level just tops 13%, the first time since 2010. It has a classic Mouton nose, the slightly higher percentage of Merlot lending a little flamboyance and flair with scents of blackberry, warm gravel, and cigar box scents. The palate is medium-bodied with fine tannin, armed with powerful core of quite rich black fruit interlaced with tobacco and allspice. There is very good structure here, a fine edginess towards the white pepper infused finish. There is almost a nuttiness to this wine, to wit, a fascinating maze-like Mouton in the making and perhaps a more cerebral Mouton compared to recent vintages. Tasted twice, almost two weeks apart, with consistent notes."</i></p> <p>- NM, Wine Advocate</p> <p><i>"Incredible iodine, oyster, currants, peat and cedar. Yet subtle. Full body, chewy yet polished tannins and great depth and complexity on the finish. I love the spice and blueberry character on the finish. Vibrant. A sexy style of Mouton."</i></p> <p>- JS, James Suckling.com</p>

**Reviews** *“This is incredibly minerally with a maritime character as well as red iodine, algae, currants and great intensity. Some saltiness. Almost like a pearl in an oyster shell. This is a true wine of the soil for Mouton. Full body, racy tannins and lingering. Excellent. Unique. 81% cabernet sauvignon, 16% merlot and 4% cabernet franc.”*  
- JS, James Suckling.com

*“The label of this vintage is designed by David Hockney in memory of Philippine de Rothschild. It is a powerful wine in the rich style of Mouton with strong black-currant fruits from 81% Cabernet Sauvignon. It is dense and dark, ready to age for many years. Drink this impressive wine from 2026.”*  
- RV, Wine Enthusiast

*“96–98. Barrel Sample. This is a highly aromatic wine, with a superbly dense structure and firm, brooding tanning. On top of the drying tannins are finely polished fruit, followed by a fresh, vibrant finish. Overall, it boasts a great combination of structure and fruit.”*  
- RV, Wine Enthusiast

*“Explosively floral nose – the usual exotic Mouton fruit underlined by very ripe 16% Merlot. The classic ‘iron fist in a velvet glove’, with ripe tannins and marvelous structure. Its true qualities will need time to show.”*  
- SS, Decanter.com

*“Deep crimson. Fragrant almost soapy nose. (Fine soap!) Good direct fruit and confidence but very much in a minor key. Almost recalls Latour in its lighter, fresher style. No sweetness. No perceptible alcohol. Easy and relaxed. Only medium weight. Certainly not opulent. Brisk finish. I may be underrating this and look forward to retasting it in Bordeaux in July. Drink 2024-2038”*  
- JR, JancisRobinson.com

*“A rich, yet backward Mouton, this is denser and more powerful than the other First Growths in 2014, but perhaps doesn’t have quite the same finesse. Cedarwood, aromatic herbs, some mocha and cassis, with plush tannins and a smooth, persistent finish.”*  
- TA, timatkin.com

*“Deep in color with a complex nose of graphite, plum, blackberry and tobacco, this wine is sure to lure you back for yet another sniff. before you get to the first sip. It is full-bodied, silky, fresh, and packed with sweet cassis, caressing your palate with a rich velour, leaving a lasting impression of espresso, cocoa, and black raspberries. This wine has less concentration than 2009 and 2010 vintages, yet it still leaves you with sweetness, vibrancy, and length. Using 81% Cabernet Sauvignon, 16% Merlot and 3% Cabernet Franc, the wine reached 13.1% alcohol with a pH of 3.78. 95-97 Pts”*  
- JL, thewinecellarinsider.com

*“2014 Deeply coloured; vibrant edge; good depth; perfumed blackcurrants; some violet lift; freshness; cassis; layers but a little closed on the day; blackcurrant fruit on the palate; firm and sturdy; soaking up the oak; chew and extract here; plenty of matter and early days here; quite backward overall; lots of material evident and clearly has length. Needs to unwind somewhat – though clearly has density and extract. [81% Cabernet Sauvignon, 16% Merlot, 3% Cabernet Franc, 13.1% alc]. Drink 2022-2035. Tasted at Mouton 30 March 2015. 94-96+”*  
- JW, winewordsandvideotape.com

*“Since the arrival of Philippe Dallhuin in 2003, Mouton has stepped up a level. Grapes are now selected only from the core original vineyard site and the wine is always a classic example of both Cabernet Sauvignon and Pauillac. 81% Cabernet Sauvignon, 16% Merlot, 3% Cabernet Franc. Deep ruby colour. Classic Mouton nose - very toasty with roast coffee and exotic spices layered over blackcurrant, lead pencil, graphite, tobacco, and cedar. The palate has a silky texture from lots of refined Medocain tannins. Oodles of blackcurrant and black cherry fruit with the freshness of acidity to give precision and balance. Complexity from toasted spices but the purity gives this wine poise, elegance, finesse, and length. An excellent Mouton.”*  
- Farr Vintners

**Reviews** *“The floral mix on the nose has lots of charm with red fruits and black fruits giving complexity. Sweet and rich at the start lots of cassis some firmer black cherry with at the back bramble and red fruit freshness the finish lighter fragrant with length of fruit. 2027-40”*  
- Derek Smedley MW

*“Intense wine with velvety tannins, dark cassis notes and savory herbs. This is a restrained Mouton that has power and good density. The long hang time and growing period in this vintage means everything was concentrated - tannins, flavor, and acidity. The alcohol is just over 13%. This is a wine to lay down.”*  
- JCL, asianpalate.com

*“An exciting, beautifully layered wine, the 2014 Mouton Rothschild is one of the clear highlights of the vintage. A stunning interplay of crème de cassis, graphite, menthol, sage, mocha, dark chocolate, and leather takes of all the senses. The 2014 is dark, voluptuous racy. Above all else, it speaks to a total sense of balance. (AG)”*  
- AG, Vinous

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