

# Château Larrivet Haut Brion Blanc 2019

CSPC# 801713

750mlx6

13.5% alc./vol.

**Grape Variety**  
**Appellation**  
**Website**  
**General Info**

80% Sauvignon Blanc, 20% Semillon  
Pessac-Léognan

<http://www.larrivethautbrion.fr/index.php/en/>

What we know of today as Chateau Larrivet Haut Brion came into being with the original name of La Rivette. This took place during the 1800's. In 1874, the estate began calling itself Chateau Haut Brion Larrivet by the new owner, Ernest Laurent. This was much to the consternation of Chateau Haut Brion. Although it took decades until an official lawsuit was filed to remedy the situation. In 1893, the property was sold to the Canolle family who were already experienced in the Bordeaux wine trade as they also owned Chateau Belair in St. Emilion.

At that time, the property was much larger than it was today. For various reasons having to do with needing money, portions of their vineyards for Larrivet Haut Brion were sold to other neighboring properties like Chateau Haut Bailly.

In the late 1800's, the estate was sold to Thomas Conseil. It was Thomas Conseil who changed the name of the chateau in 1949. The name change came about due to a lawsuit filed by the owners of Chateau Haut Brion. The estate was allowed to retain Haut Brion in their name, provided it followed at the end of the title. This was easy enough. From that point forward, the wines were sold under the name of Larrivet Haut Brion.

Chateau Larrivet Haut Brion changed hands again when it passed to Jacques Guillemaud. Jacques Guillemaud began to replant the vineyards which had become dilapidated. In fact, only 3 hectares of vines were planted when he took over the property.

Chateau Larrivet Haut Brion is quite a popular wine these days. In fact, I think it is safe to say that their wines are probably the best known of the unclassified wineries in the appellation.

Today Chateau Larrivet Haut Brion is owned and managed by the Gervoson family who took over the property in 1987. The Gervoson family are better known for producing the popular line of jams and jellies from Bonne Maman.

**Winemaker**  
**Vintage**

unknown

Once again, this year, beautiful weather in September gave winegrowers free rein to choose the harvest dates. We therefore had all the wine batches necessary to produce a fine 2019 white Smith Haut Lafitte. This wine is a lovely pale-yellow colour. The nose is very expressive, revealing very fresh citrus (grapefruit) notes, alongside ripe yellow fruit (peach, apricot, mango), as well as floral and spicy overtones (elderflower, star anise) coming to the fore, enhancing aromatic complexity. Starts out tight on the palate, becoming concentrated, powerful, and rich. The overall impression is a polished wine with wonderful acidity. It has great length, underscored by superb balance between acidity and concentration, and a very soft texture. Yellow fruit and citrus aromas follow through to the palate, underpinned by incredibly complex spices and white flower notes. A beautiful white wine, very emblematic of Smith Haut Lafitte and its terroir.

**Harvest**  
**Vineyard**

Manual at perfect ripeness, transfer of bunches in crates from September 1-8, 2015. The 72 hectare vineyard of Chateau Larrivet Haut Brion has 61 hectares planted to 55% Merlot, 40% Cabernet Sauvignon and 5% Cabernet Franc for the red wine grape varieties. This shows a marked reduction in the Cabernet Sauvignon, an increase in the Merlot, and new plantings of Cabernet Franc in the vines since the mid 1990's. It is possible that in the moderate future, some Malbec and Petit Verdot could also added to their vineyards. Larrivet Haut Brion has good neighbors. They are close to Haut Bailly and La Louviere and they also have vines bordering Smith Haut Lafitte. The red wine grape varieties are on average, 25 years of age.



<b>Vineyard</b>	<p>The vineyard is planted to produce both red and white Bordeaux wine grapes. For the white wine grape varieties, 11 hectares are planted to 60% Sauvignon Blanc and 40% Semillon. Although there are some Muscadelle grape vines planted in their vineyards as well.</p> <p>The white wine grape vines are kept at an average of 20 years of age. During the mid-1990's, the white wine grapes were planted in an even 50% ratio, which as you can see, has been changed over the years.</p>
<b>Vinification/ Maturation</b>	<p>Settling for 48 hours in small, temperature-controlled stainless-steel vats. Vinification in new barrels (50%), small wooden foudres (30%) and egg-shaped concrete vats (20%)</p> <p>Ageing: In the same recipients as for the 11-month vinifications with regular stirring to put the lees into suspension, either by bâtonnage or rotation.</p> <p>Fining: Fining with bentonite before a light filtering for the bottling</p>
<b>Tasting Notes</b>	<p>Very nice presentation for this Château wine with a pale-yellow color with golden reflections. The particularly complex bouquet reveals aromas of mandarin, lemon and pineapple associated with woody and vanilla notes. Full, rich and well balanced, the palate shows great elegance and ends with a harmoniously woody finish. A wine full of promise.</p>
<b>Serve with</b>	<p>The white wine of Chateau Larrivet Haut Brion is a perfect wine to serve with shellfish, sashimi, sushi, all types of seafood, chicken, veal, and cheese.</p>
<b>Production</b>	<p>2,083 cases made.</p>
<b>Cellaring</b>	<p>Drink now - 2023</p>
<b>Scores/Awards</b>	<p><b>90 points</b> - James Molesworth, Wine Spectator - May 2021  <b>92-94 points</b> - Lisa Perrotti-Brown, Wine Advocate - July 2020  <b>94-95 points</b> - James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com - June 2020  <b>92-94 points</b> - Roger Voss, Wine Enthusiast - April 2020  <b>92 points</b> - Jane Anson, Decanter.com - November 2020  <b>93 points</b> - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - June 2020  <b>92-94 points</b> - Neal Martin, Vinous - February 2020  <b>91-93 points</b> - Antonio Galloni, Vinous - April 2020  <b>92-94 points</b> - Jeb Dunnuck MW (score only) - June 2020  <b>91 points</b> - Jean Marc Quarin, Quarin.com - March 2020  <b>92-93 points</b> - Yves Beck, Yvesbeck.wine.fr - April 2020  <b>92 points</b> - Falstaff Magazine (score only) - June 2020</p>
<b>Reviews</b>	<p><i>"Lively, with a mix of lemon curd, gooseberry and fleur de sel notes providing a rapier aspect, while flashes of quinine and verbena add range on the finish. Sauvignon Blanc and Sémillon. Drink now through 2023. Tasted twice, with consistent notes. 2,083 cases made."</i>  - JM, Wine Spectator</p> <p><i>"The 2020 Larrivet Haut-Brion Blanc is a little closed to begin, soon unfurling to offer notes of fresh yellow apple, ripe Bosc pears and key lime pie, plus subtle hints of paraffin wax and lemongrass. The medium-bodied palate is tightly wound with apple and citrus layers, supported by compelling tension, finishing steely."</i>  - LPB, Wine Advocate</p> <p><i>"A bright, dense white with lots of dried-lemon, pear and apple character. Some vanilla and cream. It's full-bodied and flavorful. Seriously structured."</i>  - JS, JamesSuckling.com</p> <p><i>"92-94. Barrel Sample. Emphasizing tropical fruit as much as citrus, this rounded has a high percentage of Sémillon. There is a fine tension and minerality at the end that will give the wine its aging"</i>  - RV, Wine Enthusiast</p> <p><i>"Another extremely promising white wine from the vintage, this is fleshy and perky, packed with apricot and lemon juice. Great length and grip, this is standing up there with the best whites from this property, mouthwatering with personality. 10 months ageing in barrel with lees stirring. A yield of 33hl/ha. Drinking Window 2021 - 2032"</i>  - JA, Decanter.com</p>

**Reviews** *"Floral in nature, this is all made better with all the sweet, ripe, yellow citrus lemon peel, white peach and honeysuckle in the perfume. The silky, round, lush palate with all the vanilla, vivacious green apple, lemon and crushed stone taste and feels great."*

- JL, [thewinecellarinsider.com](http://thewinecellarinsider.com)

*"The 2019 Larrivet Haut-Brion Blanc is slightly deeper in colour compared to its peers. The bouquet is charming, replete with honeysuckle, lemon zest and white flower aromas that burst from the glass. The palate is vibrant on the entry with tangy orange rind and a saltiness that gets the saliva flowing on the finish. Drink over the next 10-20 years (if you can resist.)"*

- NM, [Vinous](http://Vinous)

*"The 2019 Larrivet Haut-Brion Blanc is a rich, textured white. Apricot, orange confit, chamomile, sweet oak and lightly honeyed notes all grace this creamy, super-expressive dry white. The aromatics here are very tropical, luscious, and bold. Extroverted, racy and absolutely impeccable in its balance, the 2019 is a classy wine. The 2019 is 70% Sauvignon and 30% Sémillon aged in new oak, cask and cement."*

- AG, [Vinous](http://Vinous)

*"Light color. Intense, fine nose, with ripe fruit, with a touch of truffle and smoke which is reminiscent of Burgundy. Meticulous on the palate, the wine presents both a tense and fat body. It evolves. dense, fruity, sappy, on a very good length finish, for the moment a little woody ". 2022 – 2035"*

- JMQ, [Quarin.com](http://Quarin.com)

*"Light golden yellow with light green reflections. Bouquet of good intensity marked by fruity and floral notes as well as elegant notes of aging. Juicy and delicious attack. Good reflection of the olfactory characteristics with citrus fruits, complemented by salinity and bitterness carrying aromatic expression until the finish. A fresh and fruity wine with a balancing act between sweet and crunchy nuances. Drink 2022-2033."*

*"Surprising, atypical nose of verbena and fresh grass, associated with the fruity of white peach. Larrivet Haut-Brion plays the card of refreshing daring, with a lively and full of energy wine, with woody notes that will end up s' to calm down. An exuberant, fresh, tense and tangy side with a well-asserted character. "*

- Terre de Vins June 2020.

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