



# CHÂTEAU LAFAURIE-PEYRAGUEY

1<sup>ER</sup> GRAND CRU CLASSÉ  
SAUTERNES

• HÔTEL & RESTAURANT LALIQUE ★★★★★ •



# 400 YEARS OF HISTORY

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Over the centuries, Château Lafaurie-Peyraguey has been the work of several families of illustrious owners, who all strove to expand the estate and enhance the renown of its wine. Such properties have a special relationship with time, touching on the eternal.

# PLANTING the first vines

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**T**he epic story began in the distant Middle Ages. The gatehouse and towers in the flanking wall of the Château were built in the 13<sup>th</sup> century, vestiges of stonework that is the oldest in the commune of Bommès. The oldest timber in the framework of Château Lafaurie-Peyraguey dates from 1431, evidence of activity on the land as far back as the 15<sup>th</sup> century. Going back even further, the historic parcels of the estate known as “Maisons Rouges” were the site of an important staging post in Roman times.

The earliest known owners of the land were the Peyraguey family, who originated from Illats. The presence of a branch of the family is attested in Bommès, confirming the creation

of the estate between 1592 and 1594. It was the Peyraguey family who planted the first vines of Lafaurie-Peyraguey in 1618. Several generations of the family succeeded each other.

The dawn of the 18<sup>th</sup> century saw a change of ownership. The first written records dating from 1671, name Messire Christophe de Tuquoy, Abbot of Pimbo, and Damoiselle Elizabeth de Tuquoy as godfather and godmother at the christenings of members of the Peyraguey family.

Monsieur de Tuquoy would eventually buy the estate from the Peyraguey family. The link between these great landowning families at Lafaurie-Peyraguey was thus established. The turn of the century heralded the start of an auspicious new era.



# *Letters patent* **OF NOBILITY**

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**M**essire Christophe de Tuquoy, priest, former Abbot of Pimbo and Seigneur of Montaut, acquired the Peyraguey wine estate on 14 September 1682. From the outset, the proprietors of the Lafaurie-Peyraguey estate maintained close links with the clergy. The chapel built on the estate bears witness to this tradition to the present day. Its architecture was inspired primarily by that of the Church of Saint-Éloi in Bordeaux. The newly restored chapel is again available as an ideal place to celebrate weddings and christenings.

Messire Christophe de Tuquoy transferred the estate to his niece, Dame Jeanne de Tuquoy, on 23 June 1709. She passed it on in her turn a few days later to her son, Messire Pierre de Pichard. The arrival of this noble and influential family

at Lafaurie-Peyraguey is no accident. At the end of the 18<sup>th</sup> century, the nobility was buying up the estates and vineyards of Sauternes. This investment was crucial to the development of the region and its wines; most of the crus we know today trace their origins back to this time. Lafaurie-Peyraguey is no exception. Messire Pierre de Pichard was Seigneur Baron of Saucats and Barp-Toulouse, Poy, Patin, Miremont and Montaut, Lord Chief Justice and King's Council at the Bordeaux Parliament. He assumed ownership of the estate and renamed it Château Pichard-Peyraguey. As a result of his status and wealth, the estate underwent a transformation.

In 1746, Baron Nicolas Pierre de Pichard became the owner of the estate following the death of his father. The baron, King's Council and first president of the Bordeaux Parliament, was also the proprietor of Château Lafite from 1786 to 1794.



# Letters patent OF NOBILITY

Chapel of the Church of St Éloi in Bordeaux in 2018.



© Hervé Lefebvre

In 1755, the extent of the vineyard was 13.8 hectares. Under the guidance of Nicolas Pierre de Pichard, the area under vines was reduced from 13.8 to 8 hectares. The quality of the wine was rated excellent, which is why it commanded the highest price on the market.

The baron went down in history when he sold some of his wine to the great Thomas Jefferson, who visited Bordeaux in 1787. On returning to Washington, he claimed from the Consul General of the United States in Bordeaux 85 cases of 12 bottles, including "Château Pichard-Peyraguey". This was great recognition for the quality of the estate's wines and the sustained efforts of the Pichard family. Nicolas Pierre de Pichard was guillotined on the Place de la Concorde in Paris in 1794, a victim of his times.

The title of "Château" was first given to the wine-producing estate after the Revolution, when the price of the property was estimated and it was sold by the French state some years before the arrival of a new and innovative owner.



**THOMAS JEFFERSON**  
1743-1826, 3<sup>rd</sup> president of the  
United States of America.

# CONSECRATION

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**O**n 22 July 1796, the Château was sold at auction to Messrs Lafaurie and Mauros. The latter soon ceded his share of the ownership to Pierre Lafaurie, who had also acquired Château d'Arche. It was at this time that the property took what was to be its definitive name: Château Lafaurie-Peyraguey, after the then proprietor and the founding owner.

Upon the decease of Pierre Lafaurie, on 17 January 1836, his elder son, also named Pierre Lafaurie, took the reins of the estate. The latter dedicated himself to building the vineyard's reputation for excellence and increased the area under vines. His efforts were rewarded in 1855, the year of the official classification, which ranked the best crus of Sauternes, Graves and Médoc according to their commercial value and quality as wines. Château Lafaurie-Peyraguey was included in the list of Premiers Crus Classés, third behind Château d'Yquem. At this time, King Alfonso XII of Spain, who had declared Lafaurie-Peyraguey to be his favourite wine, bought a barrel of the Premier Cru 1858, for the fabulous price of 6000 gold francs.



Charles-Marie Tanneguy, Count of Duchâtel, 1803-1867



Alfonso XII, 1857-1885, King of Spain

In 1865, Count Charles-Marie Tanneguy Duchâtel, former minister of the interior (1839-1848) and minister of finances (1836-1837) and of trade (1834), who already owned the prestigious Médoc vineyard Château Lagrange, committed himself completely to improving the estate by modernizing its plant and equipment and renovating the Château in a Hispano-Byzantine style.

**KING ALFONSO XII OF SPAIN**  
*purchased a barrel of 1858  
Peyraguey for the fabulous sum  
of 6,000 gold francs*



# A MERCHANT dedicated to wine

**I**n 1917, the prominent and highly reputable merchant and winegrower Désiré Cordier, owner of Châteaux Talbot, Gruaud-Larose and Meyney, acquired the property and set his sights on producing quality vintages at a time when others were going for volume. "The wine produced on this estate is much sought-after for its remarkable finesse, vigour and bouquet," recorded the lavish brochure *Les Grands Vins de Bordeaux*, published in 1939. Cordier, a native of Lorraine, placed his faith as early as 1957 in a dry white wine from Lafaurie-Peyraguey, in a bottle typical of Alsace – a strong bond between Alsace and Lafaurie-Peyraguey was forged early on.

The Suez Group restored the property to perfect condition and sold it to Silvio Denz in 2014. The new proprietor was particularly interested in the rich history of the estate and commissioned a study from the archaeologist, genealogist, historian and meticulous craftsman of the archives Roland Kissling.

Silvio Denz was to write a new chapter in the history of the estate.



Désiré Cordier (1861-1940)



# WINE, CRYSTAL *and french lifestyle*

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**S**ilvio Denz, wine lover and already the owner of several vineyards in Saint-Emilion, including Château Faugères and Château Péby-Faugères, both Grands Crus Classés, fell under the spell of Lafaurie-Peyraguey.

His vision for the historic property was to make it a meeting point of four worlds: wine, crystal, gastronomy and hospitality. In 2008 he had become the owner of Lalique, a jewel in the crown of the French crystal industry and an international lifestyle icon. In June 2018, on the occasion of the 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Château Lafaurie-Peyraguey, a new Lalique hotel-restaurant opened its doors. Within two months of opening, the new LALIQUE hotel-restaurant received accreditation as a member of the Relais & Châteaux collection and in November 2018 it was awarded a five-star rating, placing it in the exclu-

sive circle of luxury establishments in the region. In January 2019, chef Jérôme Schilling and the LALIQUE restaurant were awarded a star by the Michelin guide 2019. It is also a first for Sauternes – the region's first and only Michelin-starred restaurant. Everything comes together in the realm of art and the senses. Expertise, the highest standards and passion are the only rules. And all these efforts pursue a common goal: to elicit an emotional response.

Silvio Denz's overriding objective was to continue the work begun in 1618 and pay homage to the ambition and vision of the great proprietors of the past who made this a unique place where the French art de vivre could thrive.

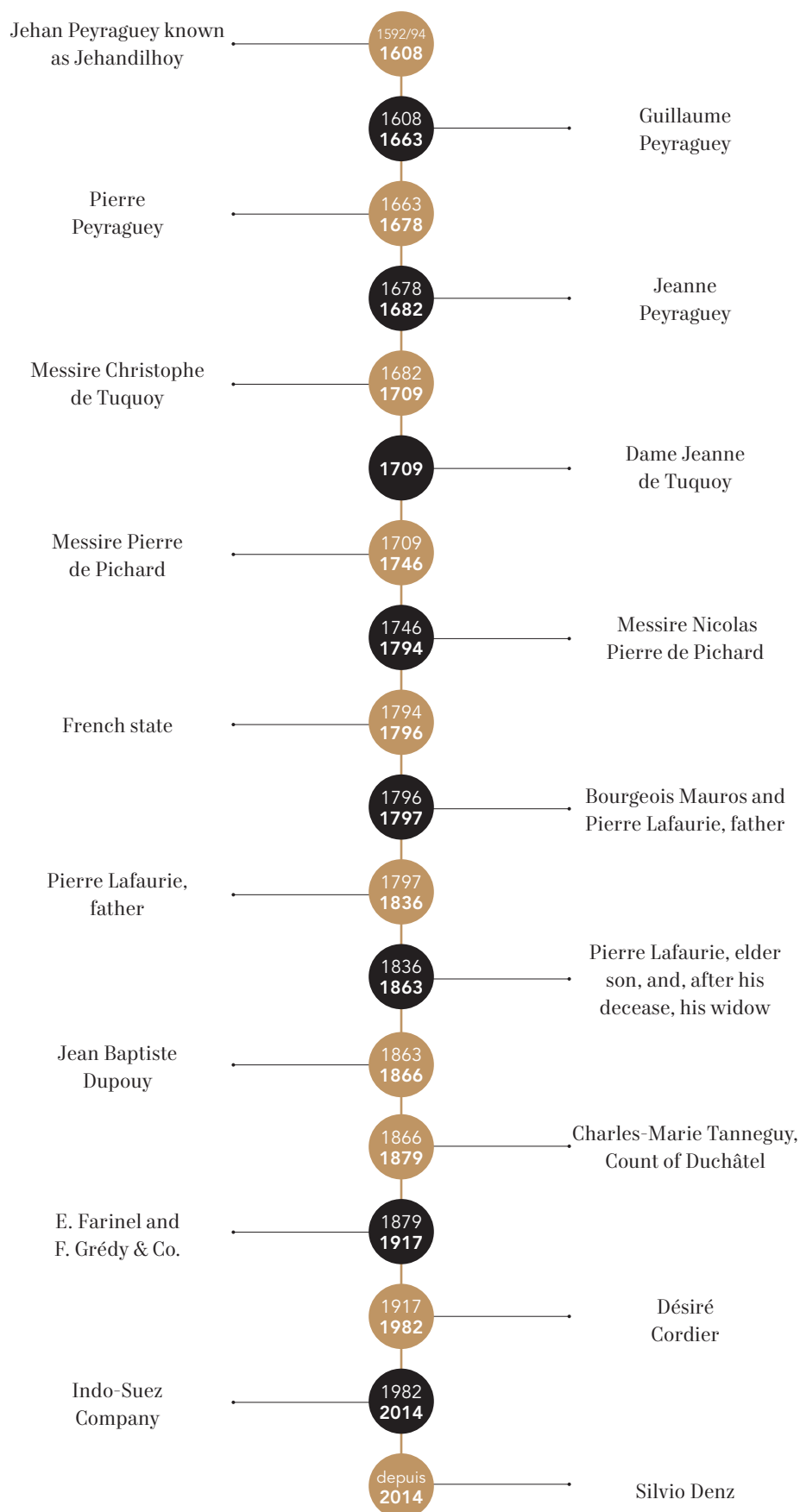
A press kit devoted to the LALIQUE hotel and restaurant is also available.





# OWNERS DOWN

*the centuries*





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