

Château Lilian Ladouys Cru Bourgeois 2009

CSPC# 749582

750mlx12

14.0% alc./vol.

Grape Variety

60% Cabernet Sauvignon, 40% Merlot

Appellation

Saint-Estephe

General Info

The Château Lilian Ladouys is located in Saint-Estephe, Pauillac beside, next to Cos d'Estournel and Lafite Rothschild where he fits in well with the Directoire style, its two towers and park.

The first edition of the 1850 Ferret Ladouys cites some of the best wines of Saint-Estephe, then the area collapsed until 1989. The Castle was then taken over by Ladouys Christian Thiéblot it completely renovated the castle by putting his entire fortune. Financial difficulties related to the size of the property led Christian Thiéblot to sell the castle Lilian Ladouys. He was a passionate acquired advanced equipment, a romantic who restored the castle and park, he added the name of the castle, the first name of his wife Lilian. The castle is currently owned by the bank Natexis. I pay tribute to Lilian and Christian Thiéblot who have invested so much without the fruit and success to Jean-Pierre Petroff and his daughter who manage and administer the area.

Thanks to them, this Cru Bourgeois has placed among the stars of Saint Estèphe. Other factors are, first responders Georges Pauli (also cellar master of Gruaud-Larose) who holds the reins of the wine he leads a very classical and other, typical of the remarkable Ladouys Lilian, the vines 25 to 45, are located on 90 different plots spread over all the land of Saint-Estephe.

Vineyards

The estate covers vineyards 47 hectares spread in a slightly disparate fashion across the St Estèphe appellation, with more than ninety plots of vines in existence, although largely within sight of some prestigious neighbours such as Cos d'Estournel. About two-thirds of the vineyard is situated on well drained soils rich in coarse gravel, with pebbles up to 8 cm across dominating. The remaining vineyards are, as we might expect for St Estèphe, clay over a limestone bedrock. The varieties planted are 60% Cabernet Sauvignon, 35% Merlot and 5% Cabernet Franc, representing a very slight increase in Cabernet Sauvignon in recent times, and the vines have an average age of about 40 years.

Harvest

Hand Harvested

Vinification/

Maturation

At harvest time the fruit is sorted in the vineyard and on arrival at the *chai*, before fermentation by indigenous yeasts in temperature-controlled stainless-steel vats, regulated to 31-33°C. The young wine then goes into oak barrels, of which one-third are new with each vintage, where malolactic occurs. The wine will remain here 16-18 months before an egg-white fining, filtration and bottling.

Tasting Notes

This 2009 is full of aromas of coffee, candied blackberries, spice and vanilla. The palate is tender and sweet.

Production

18,080 cases made

Cellaring

Drink 2013-2024

Scores/Awards

92 points - James Molesworth, Wine Spectator - March 31, 2012

92-95 points - James Suckling, Wine Spectator - Web Only 2010

90 points - Robert Parker, Wine Advocate #199 - February 2012

84-86 points - Robert Parker, Wine Advocate #188- April 2010

90 points - Neal Martin, Wine Journal - January 2012

93 points - James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com - Web Only 2012

92-94 points - Roger Voss, Wine Enthusiast - September 8, 2010

15.5 points - Jancis Robinson, JancisRobinson.com - April 20, 2010

17 points/4 stars - Stephen Spurrier, Decanter.com - April 2010

87 points - Jean Marc Quarin - March 2010



- Reviews** *"On the toasty, more modern side of the spectrum, with ambitious roasted fig, apple wood and blueberry confiture notes followed by racy graphite, espresso and blackberry pâte de fruit. Not shy but has the density for balance. Best from 2013 through 2024. 18,080 cases made."*
- JM, Wine Spectator
- "Dark color, with a spiced nose of cloves and cardamom. Tar too. Full-bodied, with round and velvety tannins and a rich, fruity aftertaste. Gorgeous young wine. Score range: 92-95"*
- JS, Wine Spectator
- "Elegant, with loads of black currant fruit, cherries and dusty, loamy soil notes as well as hints of tobacco leaf, spice box and cedar, it is a medium to full-bodied, nicely textured, fleshy wine that should drink nicely for 10-15+ years.*
- This is the best wine I have ever tasted from this property, which has gone through many changes and frequent listless, uninspiring performances. The change to a better class of St.-Estephe was started by the late Vincent Mulliez, who passed away tragically last year, but who got things started by reducing yields, cleaning up the place, eliminating the TCA that had tainted so many wines in the past, and going with a blend of 60% Cabernet Sauvignon and 40% Merlot. The result is the best wine they have ever made, or at least the finest I have ever tasted from them."*
- RP, Wine Advocate
- "This solid, somewhat monolithic effort is better than usual, and it's good to see this estate moving in the right direction. A blend of 60% Cabernet Sauvignon and 40% Merlot, it exhibits a dark purple color, dusty tannins, a hint of herbs, and plenty of power and richness. Consume it over the next 10 years. (Tasted once.)"*
- RP, Wine Advocate
- "Tasted at the Cru Bourgeois 2009 tasting in London. The 2009 has very fine lift on the floral, almost Margaux-like bouquet with vivacious red cherries and wild strawberry. Good definition here. The palate is medium bodied with fine tannins and an almost Burgundian texture. Very polished and focused, perhaps showing a little too much oak towards the finish, but certainly one of this estate's best wines in recent years. Tasted September 2011."*
- NM, Wine Journal
- "Best wine ever from here, with layers of ripe fruit, spices and milk chocolate character. Full and long. Velvety. Gorgeous. Best after 2018.""*
- JS, JamesSuckling.com
- "92-94 Barrel sample. A fine and spicy wine, the wood toast well integrated with the sweet fruit. Deliciously ripe Merlot vies with the Cabernet tannins to give a dark, complex wine."*
- RV, Wine Enthusiast
- "Lovely ripe black fruit and smoke bouquet showing plenty of weight and richness. Mouth filling plum and black currant flavours with a firmly oaked base. Very showy crowd-pleaser.""*
- SS, Decanter.com
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