

Château Lilian Ladouys 2016

CSPC# 771460

750mlx12

13.60% alc./vol.

Grape Variety
Appellation

62% Merlot, 32% Cabernet Sauvignon, 6% Petit Verdot
Saint-Estèphe
Cru Bourgeois

Website
General Info

<http://www.chateau-lilian-ladouys.com/>

The Château Lilian Ladouys is located in Saint-Estèphe, Pauillac, 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-Estèphe, 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-Estèphe.

Winemaker
Vintage

Georges Pauli

2016 was the year of weather extremes. The first 6 months of constant rain were followed by a long period of sunshine, well above usual seasonal values. The rains of the beginning of the year filled the ground with water, which protected the vine from unfavorable water stress during the hot and dry months of July and August. But after this very dry summer, it providentially rained on September 13, allowing the grapes to ripen perfectly.

Actually, our terroir reacted very well to this weather. The clays and the cold nights provided necessary cool for the vine to thrive. The surfacing limestone subsoil helped to maintain a constant humidity, which was very useful in the event of a drought. It only rained moderately from mid-September to the end of October. It allowed the grapes to ripen in ideal conditions.

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

All work favorizing a good distribution and aeration of the grapes (disbudding, clipping, thinning out of leaves). Grass planted according to the vigor of the plot. The harvest began on October 3 and spread out until October 17, leaving time for each grape variety to offer its very best. Hand-picked harvest, followed by a manual sorting on clusters and then on berries.

**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



Vinification/ Maturation	are new with each vintage, where malolactic occurs. The wine will remain here 15 months before an egg-white fining, filtration and bottling.
Tasting Notes	The 2016 Château Lilian Ladouys reveals a very deep garnet red color, enhanced with beautiful violet hues. Its explosive nose exudes notes of crushed raspberry, cherry with brandy and bitter cocoa. These are backed with intense floral notes that recall a spring flowers bouquet, relieved by aromas of cedar and sandalwood. An ample attack, on the volume and the fat, brings towards a dense body, a powerful and velvety matter. The 2016 vintage's generosity is reminded in a perfect balance of freshness and delight. The cherry is very present, enhanced with notes of orange peel, chocolate and nutmeg. The long finish comes along with chalky tannins, particular to the Merlot's great success on our asteriated limestone soils.
Serve with	Lilian Ladouys is best served at 15.5 degrees Celsius, 60 degrees Fahrenheit. The cool, almost cellar temperature gives the wine more freshness and lift. Lilian Ladouys is best served with all types of classic meat dishes, veal, pork, beef, lamb, duck, game, roast chicken, roasted braised and grilled dishes
Production	25,000 cases made.
Cellaring	Drink 2019-2031
Scores/Awards	<p>91 points - James Molesworth, Wine Spectator - March 2019</p> <p>90-93 points - James Molesworth, Wine Spectator - Web Only 2017</p> <p>91 points - Lisa Perrotti-Brown, Wine Advocate Interim Issue - November 2018</p> <p>91-93 points - Neal Martin, Wine Advocate #230 - April 2017</p> <p>93 points - James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com - February 2019</p> <p>93-94 points - James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com - March 2017</p> <p>92 points/Editor's Choice - Roger Voss, Wine Enthusiast - May 2019</p> <p>16.5 points - Jancis Robinson, JancisRobinson.com - September 2018</p> <p>16 points - Jancis Robinson, JancisRobinson.com - April 2017</p> <p>91 points - Jane Anson, Decanter.com - April 2017</p> <p>93 points - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - April 2017</p> <p>92 points - Neal Martin, Vinous - January 2019</p> <p>91 points - Antonio Galloni, Vinous - January 2019</p> <p>89-91 points - Antonio Galloni, Vinous - April 2017</p> <p>92 points - Jeb Dunnuck MW - February 2019</p>
Reviews	<p><i>"Very lively, featuring a fun mix of cassis, plum paste and cherry preserve flavors, framed with floral and mineral notes. The light-handed toast lets the fruit shine through the finish, with persistent chalky minerality. Best from 2021 through 2031. 25,000 cases made."</i> - JM, Wine Spectator</p> <p><i>"Juicy, with a lively streak of anise running through the middle of the plum and bitter cherry core. The finish has solid, fresh grip. Score range: 90-93"</i> - JM, Wine Spectator</p> <p><i>"The 2016 Lilian Ladouys is a blend of 62% Merlot, 32% Cabernet Sauvignon and 6% Petit Verdot aged in 30% new French oak for 15 months. Medium to deep garnet-purple in color, it sings of baked plums, crème de cassis and Black Forest cake with bay leaves, pencil lead and menthol. Medium-bodied, elegant and packed with vibrant flavor layers, it finishes long."</i> - LPB, Wine Advocate</p> <p><i>"The 2016 Lilian Ladouys is a blend of 32% Cabernet Sauvignon, 62% Merlot and 6% Petit Verdot picked between 3-17 October and matured in 30% new oak. It has a tightly wound bouquet with blackberry, wild hedgerow and graphite, plenty of fruit here with excellent delineation. The palate is medium-bodied with ebullient red berry fruit laced with white pepper and bay leaf, a touch of brown spice towards the generous finish. Very fine...this is a step up from the 2015."</i> - NM, Wine Advocate</p> <p><i>"The blueberry and blackberry aromas are certainly attractive here. Full-bodied and dense with a very velvety texture and a long, generous finish of ripe fruit and spice. Drink from 2022"</i> - JS, James Suckling.com</p>

- Reviews** *"Firm and silky with a lovely depth of fruit and polished tannins. Some cedar and berry. Full and dense. Excellent length. Energetic acidity at end. Yes. Better than the super 2014. Best ever."*
- JS, James Suckling.com
- "Now under the same ownership as vastly improved Château Pédesclaux in Pauillac, this estate is also on the upward quality curve. This wine has the structure and tannins of a classic Saint-Estèphe as well as juicy, rich black fruits. With aging potential, the wine should be ready to drink from 2024. Château Lilian Ladouys. *Editors' Choice* (RV)"*
- RV, Wine Enthusiast
- "62% Merlot, 33% Cabernet Sauvignon, 3% Petit Verdot, 2% Cabernet Franc. Dark cherries, mint and cassis, a touch of tobacco and cedar. Friable tannins, fresh acidity, medium body. QGV for this classic style. (RH)"*
- JH, JancisRobinson.com
- "A bit of oak is evident on the nose and there's something pretty stodgy about this – a terroir thing? Definitely earthbound. Grainy tannins dominate."*
- JR, JancisRobinson.com
- "Château Lilian Ladouys has the same owner as Château Pédesclaux, with Eric Boissenot acting as consultant. The intensity here is really remarkable for a wine that has such juice through the palate. There is a beautiful ripeness to the fruit, with tannins that provide a fresh frame. A definite improvement on the 2015, it captures the spirit of juicy, fresh tannins and fruits of the vintage. The blend is 62% Merlot, 32% Cabernet Sauvignon and 6% Petit Verdot, with a pH of 3.64. (JA)"*
- JA, Decanter.com
- "Fresh, spicy cassis, licorice and blackberry have exploded all over the place in the best vintage yet for Lilian Ladouys. With textbook tannins, fresh fruit, length and lovability, the wine was made from a blend of 62% Merlot, 32% Cabernet Sauvignon and 6% Petit Verdot with 13.6% alcohol and a pH of 3.67."*
- JL, thewinecellarinsider.com
- "This is the third time I have tasted the 2016 Lilian Ladouys in bottle. It retains a very intense blackberry and boysenberry bouquet laced with minerals but displays a little more amplitude than it did in August. The tightly knit palate is medium-bodied with fine tannin and still shows the graphite seam that I remarked upon previously. There is a little more persistence now, hence the slightly higher score. Good potential. Drink 2023-2040."*
- NM, Vinous
- "The 2016 Lilian Ladouys is just as beautiful from bottle as it was from barrel. Lifted, silky and exceptionally perfumed, the 2016 has so much to offer. Bright red toned fruits laced with expressive floral top notes run through this sensual, totally gracious Saint-Estèphe. There is so much to like. Lilian Ladouys is a rare Saint-Estèphe where Merlot takes precedence over Cabernet Sauvignon. Tasted two times"*
- AG, Vinous
- "The 2016 Lilian Ladouys is wonderfully expressive in this vintage. Lifted, savory aromatics and pliant fruit are some of the signatures, but it is the wine's sublime balance and sense of proportion that stand out most. Silky tannins add to the midweight, gracious feel. This is a strong showing. Lilian Ladouys is a rare Saint-Estèphe where Merlot takes precedence over Cabernet Sauvignon. Tasted two times."*
- AG, Vinous
- "A perennial overachiever, the 2016 Château Lilian Ladouys brings the goods in 2016 and has a complex, medium to full-bodied, character-filled style to go with loads of blue fruits, incense, dried herbs, and a hint of violets. A blend of 62% Merlot, 32% Cabernet Sauvignon, and 6% Petit Verdot all raised in 30% new barrels, this charming, front end-loaded effort is well worth seeking out. It should keep for 10-15 years."*
- Jeb Dunnuck