

Château Lilian Ladouys Cru Bourgeois 2010

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

Intense crimson. The nose shows fairly pronounced oak and lovely fruit in the background. On the palate, fullness and refined, tightly wound tannins. Closely integrated across the palate. Still austere yet displays good potential."

Production

24,167 cases made

Cellaring

Drink 2012-2022

Scores/Awards

89 points - James Molesworth, Wine Spectator - Web Only 2013

90-93 points - James Molesworth, Wine Spectator - Web Only 2011

88 points - Robert Parker, Wine Advocate #205 - February 2013

86-87 points - Robert Parker, Wine Advocate #194 - May 2011

91 points - Neal Martin, Wine Journal - November 2012

89-91 points - Neal Martin, Wine Journal - May 2011

90-91 points - James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com - April 2011

94 points - Roger Voss, Wine Enthusiast - February 1, 2013

93-95 points - Roger Voss, Wine Enthusiast - June 25, 2011

16 points - Jancis Robinson, JancisRobinson.com - April 2011

16 points - Stephen Spurrier, Decanter.com - April 2011



Scores/Awards **86 points** - Jean Marc Quarin - March 2011 (score only)
16.5 points - La Revue du Vin France (score only)
89-91 points - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - April 19, 2011
85-86 points - Jeremy Williams, winewordsandvideotape.com - April 7, 2011
89-91 points - Jeannie Cho Lee MW, asianpalate.com - April 2011
90 points - Gilbert & Gaillard - April 24, 2011 (score only)
15 points - Vinum Wine Magazine - April 2011 (score only)
90-92 points - Andy Frieden, JJBuckley Wines - April 2011

Reviews *"Features firm chalk and charcoal notes along the edges, with a mix of crushed plum and red currant fruit at the core. The bright, fresh finish lets the minerality meld with the fruit. Pure and focused, but shy on depth, this is a step back from this estate's recent progress. Drink now through 2021. 24,167 cases made."*
- JM, Wine Spectator

"Dark and nicely layered, with crunchy acidity in between the notes of raspberry, cherry pit, plum sauce and savory herb. The long, chalk-filled finish has a whiff of smoke. A great turnaround over the last few years at this estate. Score range: 90-93."
- JM, Wine Spectator

"A blend of 60% Cabernet Sauvignon and 40% Merlot, this wine displays deep black currant fruit along with some damp earth and forest notes intermixed with roasted herbs, licorice, and a touch of oak. The 2010 could well turn out to be the best this estate has made in nearly a generation. Drink it over the next 20-15 years. This property is finally making some noise after having been sold following a problem with corked bottles a number of years ago. The new management seems to be on the right track, because the 2010 is a successful effort."
- RP, Wine Advocate

"This wine possesses lots of tannin, but more concentration than normal, suggesting this estate is clearly on the rebound."
- RP, Wine Advocate

"Tasted at the Crus Bourgeois 2010 tasting in London. Word on the street is that Lilian Ladouys is on the up and this 2010 attests to that. It has a very pure bouquet with lovely blackberry, briary and subtle blueberry notes infused with fine minerality. The palate is medium bodied with very fine tannins. It is very caressing, beautifully balanced with great poise on the finish. Superb. Drink now-2022. Tasted September 2012."
- NM, Wine Journal

"Tasted on two or three occasions with some variation, the nose is very refined and delineated with fresh blackberry, raspberry and dark plum fruit. The oak is well integrated, and it retains a feminine touch. The palate is sweet and refined on the entry, silky smooth tannins, very composed and focused towards the seductive finish that is lacquered in creamy new oak. This is trying very hard, very svelte, but dial down that oak! Tasted April 2011."
- NM, Wine Journal

"This is soft and velvety, with blueberry and blackberry aromas. Full body, with round tannins and a long finish. A rich and almost jammy wine. Plenty going on here! 2009 was excellent as well."
- JS, JamesSuckling.com

"Obviously wood-aged, with a smoky toast flavor, this is a wine that shows the power of Saint-Estèphe tannins in full force. At the same time, there is a blackberry character that adds richness and juiciness, which cuts through the dry core. Age for at least 7-8 years."
- RV, Wine Enthusiast

"93-95 A fine wine, the juicy fruits overlaying the firm structure. It has all the right weight, perfumes, new wood element. A great success."
- RV, Wine Enthusiast

Reviews *"Same owner as Pédesclaux. Managed by the same team as Gironville, Belle-Vue etc. Recently bought in 2008 by rugby figure. Maitre de chai is young Australian, Sam Gavan. Bright crimson. Sweet and malty on the nose. Pretty assertive, sweet, then chewy. Certainly not subtle! Hard work for the moment but with much more fruit than most St-Estèphes. Tasted 5 Apr: Mid crimson. Scented and fresh. Quite light and minerally - fine boned. Correct and racy. Not fighting the local character."*
- JR, JancisRobinson.com

"Very good smoky cassis nose, lots of good fleshy, firm fruit, very good medium term. Drink 2014-20."
- SS, Decanter.com

"Lilian Ladouys, located close to Lafon Rochet on sand and gravel soils, this vintage was produced from a 52% Cabernet Sauvignon, 43% Merlot and 5% Cabernet Franc. The wine opens with stone, oak and blackberry aromas. Medium bodied with light cassis flavors and dusty tannins are found in the finish. 89-91 Pts"
- JL, thewinecellarinsider.com

"Saturated colour; some finesse on the nose; creamy and layered quite fine; oak is present, but wine has depth. Tannins here but guts and overall feels a reasonably polished effort 85-86+/100 l'Alliance des Crus Bourgeois tasting 7th April 2011"
- JW, winewordsandvideotape.com

"The deep purple 2010 Lilian Ladouys has aromas of violets, cassis, blackberries, and on the palate delivers a juicy, ripe and elegant style of St. Estephe with great purity of fruit expression. This is a wine of good density, balance and length, made for fairly early drinking."
- JCL, asianpalate.com

"60% cabernet sauvignon and 40% merlot. This 43-hectare vineyard is on soils that are a mix of gravel and clay with some limestone deposits, and the average age is 35 years. Merlot hand harvested between Sept. 29th and Oct. 7th and the cabernet between Oct. 12th and 18th. Yields were 42 hls/ha after selection and saignée. Alcohol at 14%. Aromas of spring flowers, blackberry and cassis fill the nose with an underlying gravelly rocky foundation. On the palate, the power is dialed up with black raspberry supported by deep mocha, blackberry jam and some nice minerality. The wine is precise and full-bodied with a lingering finish."
- AF, JJ Buckley Wines
