



'The inspired ownership of Jacky Lorenzetti has led to improved quality in both the vineyard and vat room'

Château Lilian Ladouys

Just as wine lovers no longer dub Pauillac's Château Pedesclaux 'Château Pedestrian', Château Lilian Ladouys is no longer lacklustre. The inspired ownership of Jacky Lorenzetti has led to improved quality in both the vineyard and vat room. Last year, the estate grew in size from 46ha to 80.5ha, following the purchase of selected vineyards from Châteaux Clauzet and Tour de Pez, according to director Vincent Bache-Gabrielsen. His goal was to consolidate the vineyard, which was previously too fragmented. Now the estate has 80% gravel and 20% clay and limestone soils, and plantings of Cabernet Sauvignon have been increased.



Château Lilian Ladouys, St-Estèphe CB 2016 92

£14.33-£16.67 (lb) **Berry Bros Exchange, Crump Richmond Shaw, Montrachet**

The nose reflects very ripe red and black fruit, and even some exotic notes, which could take some by surprise. But the palate is more balanced, showing fresh cassis on the finish, which has a long lift, and almost suggests the grapefruit freshness of a white wine! I like the mid-palate sap. An excellent wine and miles better than its New World-style and less terroir-driven 2010, also tasted. **Drink** 2020-2030 **Alc** 13.5% **Y**

Photograph: Nigel Blythe/Cephas