

MONTESQUIEU

At Cadillac ~~across~~ the Gironde and take the N113 towards Bordeaux finally left after 10 miles to LABRIÈRE. Chateau (not open on Tuesdays) set in in an 18c park in the English style with an avenue of trees leading up to the residential buildings within the wall. He was a great lover of English things and was travelling companion of Lord Chesterfield. Trained as a lawyer he preferred the solitude of his estates to the busy life of Bordeaux. The chateau was built by his ancestors in the 15c and still belongs to his descendants. M^l room is kept as it was in his lifetime & the library on a suitable west scale is filled with ^{his} books. He claimed he had never suffered from any depression which as Louis depression which as Louis heading had not cured. His major opus was the Esprit des Lois published in 1748 an examination of laws & their relationship to society which led him to suggest widespread reforms in the French State & contributed to the thinking of the leaders of the Revolution 40 years later. It had considerable success in England & Montesquieu who also sold copies for his estate to England wrote to a friend that the fame of his book was helping the sale of his wine.

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Companion Guide to S.W. France

Bordeaux & the Bordogne. 1977.