

Louis Lequin



Domaine Louis Lequin has been producing Burgundy in Santenay for four centuries, since 1669. It now comprises 7 hectares of premier and grand cru terroirs in prime sites throughout the Côte d'Or: Nuits-Saint-Georges in the Côte de Nuits, as well as Pommard, Santenay, Corton, Corton-Charlemagne, and Bâtard-Montrachet in the Côte de Beaune. Though the Lequin Family started to grow grapes as early as 1604, their first purchase of vineyard, a small parcel in Santenay called Les Clos Genet, did not happen until 65 years later. This acquisition cemented the fate of the Lequin family to be in Burgundy, as the land came with a 120-year mortgage.

In 1852, Louis Isadore Lequin moved his family to the hill in Santenay where the vineyards and winery were located. The hill was rich in siliceous sand deposits which proved ideal for glassmaking (of all things!) Lequin began doing glasswork as well as cultivating vineyards. All the proceeds from his glass business were reinvested into the winery with the purchase of more land. In 1938, Lucien Lequin (grandfather of Louis, the current proprietor) purchased his first parcel of grand cru land in Bâtard-Montrachet. An export market was developed in 1946 and by 1950 the wines were being served at the Waldorf Astoria in Manhattan. Over the decades that followed, the Lequin family purchased vineyards in Corton and Nuits-Saint-Georges. Louis took the helm in 1993.

It is a well-known fact that terroirs in Burgundy vary greatly even from one site within a vineyard to another site within the same vineyard. However, there is one ubiquitous geological fact that remains: the Jurassic period, which saw much of Northern Europe and all of Burgundy submerged in a shallow sea, is responsible for the beds of exquisite sea minerals that give the wines their gravitas. All of the terroirs within Lequin's vineyard sites possess that classic combination of limestone, clay, and various marl soils so important to the production of high quality Burgundy.

