

Laurent Lequart N.V. Blanc de Noirs, Champagne Brut Nature

WineWise Code	KLL-2
Country	France
Region	Champagne
Subregion	Marne Valley
Color	Sparkling
Alcohol by Volume	12
Acidity	4.4
Dosage	0
Years in Blend	2013(20%)
Bottling Date	2/2013
Disgorgement Date	8/2016
Annual cases produced	350
Varieties	100% Pinot Noir
Destemming	Complete
Fermentation vessel	Stainless Steel
Aging method	Cask
Aging duration (months)	40 months
Filtered?	Yes
Yeast	Spontaneous
Malolactic	Yes
Added Sulfur	Yes, 37ppm
Soil Type(s)	Calcareous, Sandstone
Vine Yields hl/ha	7
Farming practices	HEV

Notes from the producer:

After having finishing his training in Avize, Laurent has created his own brand in 1987. The first harvest was made in 1988, and the first production arrived couples of months later with only 2000 bottles produced. We the time, Laurent has focused his activity on his terroir, and especially the Meunier, Emblematic grapes from the Marne Valley. Nowadays, 100% Meunier Champagnes are a part of our "DNA" but not only ... The production is also focused with small production wines, with a specific winemaking or longer ageing.



WineWise Notes:

Our reservations about the growing trend towards undosed wines were entirely banished by the swaggering authority of this wine, the only pure Pinot Noir made in Passy-Grigny. Based on 70% 2013, the balance again coming from the previous two years, it is a suave, vinous yet chiseled champagne of very high class.

Passy-Grigny is a village on the river Marne just a few kilometers to the west of Épernay which boasts a co-op that ranks with Mailly and Le Mesnil as among the elect few in Champagne. And our man M. Lequart just happens to be its President! Properly speaking, then, this producer is a Récoltant-Co-opérateur. That is to say, he delivers his grapes to the co-op which then delivers back to him a quantity of wine commensurate with them. It took us a while to fully grasp the complexities of this mechanism, and we admit to some scepticism about it, but all doubts were banished by the undeniable splendor of the wines, that have a torque and clarity of the highest order. This is a tiny domaine offering important champagnes.

