

# AQUITAINE LIÈGE

— Cork Maker for *Grands Vins* —

# AQUITAINE LIÈGE

— Cork Maker for *Grands Vins* —

“ ENHANCING  
THE CHARACTER  
OF THE WINE ”



## Applying our expertise on behalf of your wine

**Choosing the proper cork to close your wine is critical** to ensuring that it lives up to your commitment and your clients' expectations. **The cork is in direct contact with your wine.** It contributes to proper ageing and development so that the wine can be enjoyed at its best.

While natural cork is clearly the closure solution of choice, certain precautions are necessary.

Our job is to help you succeed at this step by choosing natural cork stoppers that we have tested and selected, allowing your wine to retain its freshness and clean aromas.

**Using our own unique method, this has been our mission for more than 25 years.**



# AQUITAINE LIÈGE

— Cork Maker for *Grands Vins* —

Today, more than 500 vineyards  
- including the most prestigious French  
wine estates - use our products.



All of our cork comes from the Alentejo and Algarve regions of Portugal and from Spain.

**Our selection method:**

## **From the cork oak to the stopper**

**Aquitaine Liège has operations in Portugal, where the cork is harvested and the stoppers are produced.**

Our business is based on the intrinsic quality of the raw materials. Working on site, our role is to approve the choice of cork before processing and confirm quality before loading.

**For 25 years, we have instructed our partners to follow processing and disinfecting methods that improve final quality significantly:**

- Large-diameter production (25 mm)
- Steam sterilization of the cork
- Pre-washing the stoppers in a hydro-alcoholic solution
- Disinfection using a limited amount of peroxide to maintain the cork's natural appearance
- Low-temperature storage

**Aquitaine Liège has also developed a unique peroxide-free organic wash.**

**Our on-site presence in Portugal is essential and will increase when we open a subsidiary there in 2017.**



100% inspection of batches

How we work:

## From cork to bottling

Our quality department is affiliated with a network of laboratories and analyses each batch of stoppers at reception.

- Our team of tasters tests 2,500 corks every week (sensory analysis).
- We perform additional analyses in-house, including capillarity, extraction force, mass density, and dimensional tests, humidity controls, analyses of peroxide residues, and pressure tests for liquids and gases.
- Our partner laboratories determine haloanisole and halophenol content and have conducted more than 1,000 such analyses.
- We ensure full traceability by assigning a unique identifier to every batch and recording each step in the inspection process.

**Aquitaine Liège conducts systematic optical sorting - but we also continue to rely on manual sorting.**


Each batch is sorted at least twice to identify raw material defects and production flaws and to categorize the corks into groups of uniform appearance.

**Markings are branded or printed.**

We offer all clients the option of pre-positioning their corks.

Our R&D department has developed a **unique paraffin wax/silicone** coating that provides an optimal seal and uniform extraction force.

Every delivery includes a **technical data sheet with information on the chemical analyses and mechanical and sensory tests that we performed.**



“We partner with you from start to finish -  
from understanding your needs to bottling”

## Our values, philosophy and commitments

### **We maintain constant focus on cork quality**

We check all batches received.

We eliminate all doubt about the quality of your corks.

### **We aim for continuous improvement**

We use cutting-edge technologies, apply our R&D results and learn from client feedback to improve our service to you.

### **We listen to, advise and support you**

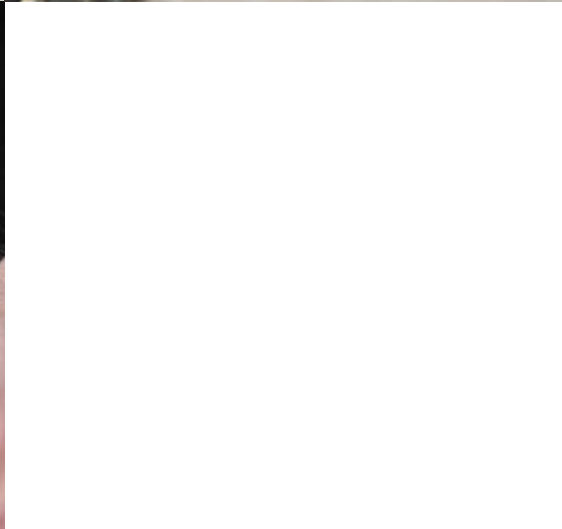
We help you select corks that are best-suited to your wines, your requirements and your expectations.

We partner with you from start to finish - from understanding your needs to bottling.

### **We adapt and respond quickly**

Our company operates on a human scale. We are proud of our quality- and selection-based approach to our work.

**Every client is unique.** We adapt our services systematically so that we can meet all of your requirements.







## Cork and the environment

Cork is 100% natural,  
environmentally friendly  
and recyclable.

Harvested cork oak trees absorb 2.5 - 4 times  
more CO<sub>2</sub> than non-harvested cork oaks.

Cork oak forests are an example of the balance  
that can be achieved between ecosystem  
preservation and responsible business operations.



## Putting our team to work for you

Frédéric FOURNIER, CEO and Owner

Juliette FOURNIER, Executive Manager

Claude DESGARNIER and Gilles DESGARNIER, Founders

Laurence SOUMET and Didier LACHAPELLE, Sales Managers

Sandrine CHEN, Administrative Manager

Julien BACCAUD and Alvaro FERREIRA, Logistics Managers

Catherine MUNICO, Quality Manager

Martine CABANAT (and her team), Product Selection Manager

Michel VALLA (and his team), Cork Branding Manager



“We eliminate all doubt about the quality of your corks.”

Z.A. Actipolis, 34 avenue Ferdinand de Lesseps,  
33610 Canéjan, France  
T. +33 557 353 935 - [contact@aquitaineliege.com](mailto:contact@aquitaineliege.com)

[www.aquitaineliege.com](http://www.aquitaineliege.com)