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THE ULTIMATE BURGUNDY REFERENCE

Château du Moulin-à-Vent (Romanèche-Thorins)

<u>2009 Moulin-à-Vent</u>	red	89
<u>2009 Moulin-à-Vent "Champ de Cour"</u>	red	92
<u>2009 ⇨ Moulin-à-Vent "Croix des Vérillats"</u>	red	90

Producer note: "This historic property dates its origins to 1732 though there was a change of ownership as recently as 2009 as Jean-Jacques Parinet bought the 30 ha Château with the aim of restoring it to its prior glory. While the terrific 2009 vintage has clearly played a role, it would appear that Parinet's determination has borne fruit because these examples are simply terrific. Yields are kept very low, which is to say between 20 and 35 hl/ha and it shows as the wines are dense and serious. The wines were bottled in September 2010 after a light filtration but with no fining. For those who believe that good Beaujolais is more about blending than specific plots need only taste these three examples to be convinced otherwise. The straight Moulin-à-Vent is indeed a blend but the other two individual vineyard wines could hardly be more different. For more information, visit: www.chateaudumoulinavent.com."

2009 Moulin-à-Vent: (about 25,000 bottles produced).

"A peppery dark, complex and overtly ripe nose of black raspberry, black cherry and cassis hints complement well the delicious, intense and serious medium-bodied flavors that evidence a discreet minerality on the sappy, long and satisfying finish. This possesses enough underlying material and structure that it should benefit from 3 to 5 years of bottle age." **89/2014+**

2009 Moulin-à-Vent "Croix des Vérillats": (about 3,500 bottles produced).

"This is quite ripe without being over the top with cassis, black berry, menthol and poached plum aromas that give way to extremely rich yet vibrant and solidly complex medium-bodied flavors that possess excellent length and balance. This generous and fleshy effort has plenty of dry extract that coats the palate and while there is good power, this should drink well after only 3 to 5 years of cellar time." **90/2014+**

2009 Moulin-à-Vent "Champ de Cour": (about 3,500 bottles produced)

"While this is also notably ripe, it is not as ripe as the Croix and fresher as well despite the presence of mild reduction.

Here the nose is more classic with pepper, earth and spice notes that add breadth to the cassis and black cherry aromas that introduce mineral-driven, intense and notably tighter medium-bodied flavors that are even more concentrated, all wrapped in a long and moderately austere finish. The structure is also much more evident and this will need 6 to 8 years to be at its best though it will last for many years after that, indeed I can easily foresee this being a 20 year wine, perhaps even longer. In a word, terrific." **92/2016+**

Note: Wines receiving a ⇨ symbol are particularly outstanding for their respective appellations and especially merit your attention.

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2010 Moulin-à-Vent:

"A ripe yet fresh nose of pepper, earth and liqueur-like red berry fruit aromas leads to attractively rich, round and delicious flavors that possess fine mid-palate concentration and fine length on the balanced, solidly complex and lingering finish. This is quite firmly structured and thus will need a few years to unwind and flesh out." **89/2016+**

2010 Moulin-à-Vent "Croix des Vérillats":

"Noticeable if subtle wood sets off notably ripe aromas that include a distinct floral character along with plenty of earth, spice, cassis, black berry and plum. There is good richness and volume to the mouth coating, firm and serious flavors that are underpinned by solid structure that is has a touch of youthful asperity to it though it's clear that the tannins are phenolically mature. This should age beautifully but be aware that this is an imposing wine and is not even remotely close to the fruity and exuberant Beaujolais of popular image." **91/2018+**

2010 Moulin-à-Vent "Champ de Cour":

"A distinctly ripe nose of dark berry fruit is heavily accented by notes of pepper, earth and floral hints. There is impressive concentration and richness to the vibrant and intense medium-bodied flavors that are solidly structured, in fact sufficiently so to impart a distinctly dusty if not outright chewy texture to the mildly austere and youthfully rustic finish. This will also need several years to flesh out and round the edges of the tannins." **90/2017+**

2009 Moulin-à-Vent "Clos du Château":

"This is also notably ripe yet not so much so that the pepper-infused dark berry fruit aromas seem roasted or unduly distorted. There is excellent volume and richness to the suave and mouth coating flavors that possess good depth and excellent length on the ever-so-mildly austere finish. As one might reasonably expect given the differences between the '09 and '10 vintages, this isn't quite as structured as the above wines and is as a consequence is a bit more forward." **90/2016+**