



CHÂTEAU DU MOULIN-À-VENT

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2015 LA ROCHELLE



Varietal / 100% Gamay Noir

Vineyard / La Rochelle is a circular vineyard located on the southern slope of the Vérillats hill, directly in the wind corridor. It is south exposed and the slope is of 8%. The soil combines granitic sands in surface and clay in the underlayer.

Vineyard Size / 4.218 hectares (10.43 acres)

Soils / Granitic sands, deeper than the Vérillats

Orientation / South exposure; this terroir is in the wind corridor

Vine Age / 80+-year old vines

Vine Density / 10,000 vines/hectare

Viticulture / Lutte raisonnée (“reasoned protection”): natural soil amendments, manual weed control and integrated pest management

Yields / 20 hectoliters per hectare (Normal yields in the region are 45 - 50 hl/ha, while the maximum authorized is 52 hl/ha.)

Harvest / Manual harvest from August 27 –September 2, in small 30-liter containers; one sorting table positioned before the destemmer

Vinification / 100% destemmed; pumping-over during cold pre-fermentation soak and at the end of fermentation to increase roundness and finesse. Punching the cap at the beginning of fermentation; 21 days extraction to bring out the full potential of the terroirs

Ageing / 12 months, 65% aged in oak, with 50% of new oak.; French oak from the Allier and Vosges forests; excellent sourcing of oak from the top coopers Taransaud and François Frères to bring out the wine’s signature aromas and tannins

Alcohol / 13%

Cellaring Potential / 6+ years, with gradual development over the years. Younger wines should be poured into a carafe one hour before serving.

Tasting Notes / “Bright violet. Heady cherry, blue fruit and vanilla aromas show very good energy and a spicy accent that gains strength with air. Juicy and concentrated on the palate, offering powerful boysenberry and bitter cherry flavors and a sweetening touch of candied flowers. Closes supple, spicy and very long; youthful tannins frame the energetic dark fruit.” 92pts

—Josh Reynolds, *Vinous*, Dec 2017

Vintage Report / 2015 is the vintage of the century. Berries were of perfect ripeness, from skin to seeds. The wines are rich, concentrated, powerful. Capable of remarkable ageing.

Terroir / A specific type of granite soil (“gorrhe”) overlays the deeper soils that are rich in manganese and metallic oxides. The powerful winds blowing through this appellation have a decisive impact on the sanitary state of the vineyards and the maturation and concentration of the grapes.