

Wine & Spirits

VALUE
BRAND
of the
YEAR

COLOMBELLE

What: A brand from the Producteurs Plaimont coop that showcases the best appellations of southwest France.

Standout: The bright, herbal, grapefruit-scented 2007 Cotes de Gascogne white (\$8).

Where: Saint-Mont, west of Toulouse.

When: Pour the invigorating Cotes de Gascogne white on hot days or with Thai papaya salad; bring the bright, strawberry-scented Cotes de Gascogne Rose on picnics with ham, butter and cornichons on baguette. The tannic, savory red is built for duck confit. All run \$8.

Importer: Winesellers, Ltd., Skokie, IL

100 Top Value's of the Year

Colombelle 2007 Vin de Pays des Cotes de Gascogne Blanc - 88 points, BEST BUY

“This dispels any notion that ugni blanc and colombard made by a cooperative would be a dull white wine. In fact, it’s bright with pithy grapefruit and sharp green grass notes. For \$8, it’s a steal.”

Colombelle 2007 Vin de Pays des Cotes de Gascogne Red - 88 points, BEST BUY

“Herbal, meaty, chewy and acidic, this is a wild little red, ready for a hanger steak grilled rare.”