

# Wine & Spirits

JUNE 2008

## 45 value brands of the year

### TOP 6 FRENCH VALUE BRANDS

#### J. VIDAL FLEURY

**What:** Rhône reds made by négociant house founded in 1787.

**Standout:** The 2005 Côte du Rhône Domaine Le Pigeonnier (\$11) is lively and lush with spicy plum and cherry flavors, perfectly pitched for everyday drinking.

**Where:** Ampuis, in the heart of the Côtes Rôtie

**When:** Pull out the hearty, rustic Côtes du Ventoux red for casual backyard grilling, the 2006 Côtes du Rhône white for grilled fish, and the Domaine Le Pigeonnier for anything from chicken to steaks slathered in chimichurri.

**Importer:** W.J.Deutsch & Sons, Harrison, NY.

- Nicole Drummer, Patricio Tapia and Tara Q. Thomas