

Stand the heat and get into the kitchen. The latest news, info, gadgets and tips from the wonderful world of food and drink... **by Jude Eccles**



What's your problem?

Q I want to take my sister on a culinary holiday in Italy for her birthday, somewhere we can both brush up on our cooking skills and learn about the authentic flavours of real Italian cuisine. Can you recommend a travel operator who caters for this?

A We like the look of a cookery course called Cookery at Casa Ombuto in Tuscany, which we found on www.holidaybank.com. You'll be taught to make an Italian four-course dinner covering all basic Italian cooking techniques. Casa Ombuto is a luxurious villa with all mod cons and a large heated pool. An excursion is organised to visit a vineyard for wine tasting and to a local producer of olive oil, plus there's time for some shopping too.

● For more details call *Piipe or Lars* on 00 393 487363 864 or e-mail info@italiancookeycourse.com



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Books for cooks

The Chinese Kitchen
Deh-Ta Hsiung
 Kyle Cathie Ltd,
 £14.99

This book contains a comprehensive list of traditional ingredients, all readily available here in the UK, which is essential for really authentic and delicious Chinese dishes. As well as this, there are 200 easy-to-follow recipes which, accompanied by fabulous photographs, will inspire you to explore Chinese cooking for yourself. So, say goodbye to your local takeaway for good and get cooking...

