

Aldo Zilli

BIOGRAPHY



Aldo Zilli is an award-winning celebrity chef and restaurateur who specialises in Italian, vegetarian and seafood cuisine. One of nine children, he was born in the small seaside town of Alba Adriatica in the central Italian region of Abruzzo and first learnt Italian home cooking from his mother in Italy and catering college. He was the founder and chef-patron of some of London's most exciting and innovative restaurants, Signor Zilli, Zilli Fish, Zilli Green, Zilli Café and Zilli Bar. His Italian seafood restaurant, Zilli Fish, which was located on Brewer Street, was a Soho institution and had been open for over 15 years until March 2012 when Aldo decided to hang up the chef's whites and embark on other ventures.

Aldo has written 10 books including two autobiographies, *Being Zilli* and *My Italian Country Childhood*, as well as various cook books

with his signature Italian recipes. *Fresh & Green* (Simon & Schuster 2012) featuring over 100 new exciting vegetarian recipes was featured in the *Telegraph's Top Ten Cookery Books*.

Aldo is regularly on TV and has appeared both as a chef and presenter. Shows include *Ready Steady Cook* and *Daily Cooks Challenge* for ITV, *Put Your Money Where Your Mouth Is* (BBC2), *Step up to the Plate*, *Eating in the Sun*, *Sunday Life* and *The One Show* for BBC1, Channel 5's *Family Recipe*, UKTV's *Market Kitchen*, and BBC3's *The Real Hustle*. He has also had slots on ITV1's *Alan Titchmarsh Show* and *Daybreak* and his own primetime ITV documentary *Home Is Where The Heart Is*. Most recently **Aldo** appeared on the UK *Good Food* channel where he and fellow chef Enzo Oliveri embarked on a culinary journey across Sicily cooking up delights in Mount Etna, Trapani and the island's capital, Palermo. He has also been filming for a brand new BBC cookery show which will air in Spring 2013. **Aldo** gained a huge following on *Celebrity Fit Club* (ITV1), where he showcased his dynamic personality and led the successful team to victory, gaining a new slender figure in the process. He also captivated the nation with his performances on *Celebrity X Factor* (ITV1), making it through to the later stages of the competition.

Aldo has worked with various brands, including *Thomson Airways* and *Philadelphia*. He also enjoyed a hugely successful relationship with *Kellogg's Optivita*, appearing in several TV adverts and PR campaigns. His consultancy work includes that with Italian restaurant chain, *Prezzo*, where his *VIPizza* has proved extremely successful and led him to collaborate with *M Kitchen* at *Morrisons* supermarket nationwide to create two pizzas for their '*Inspired By*' celebrity chef range.

Aldo currently writes his own weekly column for the *Daily Express* newspaper *Saturday* magazine. He similarly has a monthly column in *Mother & Baby* magazine where he gives tips and recipes. He is currently Chef Consilere to upmarket Italian restaurant, *San Carlo Cicchetti* in Manchester and London's Piccadilly.

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