

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*, 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.

In 2012 **Aldo** helped launch upmarket Italian restaurant *San Carlo Cicchetti* in Manchester, London's Piccadilly, and since October 2014 in Covent Garden. He is now in partnership with *San Carlo Group* which owns more than 14 restaurants in the UK and four in the Middle East.

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. His latest book, '*Fresh & Green: over 100 new exciting vegetarian recipes*' was featured in the Telegraph's *Top Ten Cookery Books 2012*.

Aldo currently writes a weekly column of tips and recipes for the *Daily Express* newspaper's *Saturday* magazine and every Sunday for *The Sun*. He also presents a weekly show on *Soho Radio*.

Aldo is regularly on TV and has appeared both as a chef and presenter. His extensive credits include *Ready Steady Cook*, *Daily Cooks Challenge*, *The Alan Titchmarsh Show*, and *Daybreak* for ITV, *Put Your Menu Where Your Mouth Is*, and *Country Show Cook Off* for 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*, BBC3's *The Real Hustle*, and his own primetime ITV documentary *Home Is Where The Heart Is*. Most recently **Aldo** 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 in a new series for the *Good Food* channel. He captivated the nation with his performances on *Celebrity X Factor* (ITV), making it through to the later stages of the competition. He also gained a huge following on *Celebrity Fit Club* (ITV), where he showcased his dynamic personality and led his team to victory, gaining a new slender figure in the process and sparking a passion for health and fitness, which he still has today.

He has worked with many brands, including *Thomson Airways* and *Philadelphia*. In a hugely successful relationship with *Kellogg's Optivita* **Aldo** appeared 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 where he now has eight products in their range, including *DIVO* cheese.

Aldo has been a strong supporter of a number of charities over the years and is currently Patron for the charity Bowel Cancer UK.

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