

## RISTORANTE LA BUCACCIA



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Within minutes of stepping into Ristorante La Bucaccia, you are no longer a stranger. Instead, you are showered with the kind of hospitality that makes you feel less like a customer and more like a member of the family.

Located in the restored wine cellar of a 13th century palazzo in the heart of medieval Cortona, Ristorante La Bucaccia is owned and operated by Romano Magi and his wife, Agostina, with assistance from their charming and knowledgeable daughter, Franceschina. Together, the Magi family creates a dining experience that is the perfect expression of Tuscan culinary traditions from the Arezzo region: simple, refined, and harmonious in proportion and taste. Since opening the restaurant in 1997, Romano has brought nothing less than the finest local cheeses, meats, olive oils, and produce into his wife's kitchen. As chef, Agostina has earned accolades for her simple yet exquisitely flavored dishes, true to the time-honored Tuscan ability to "make a lot out of little." In her hands, dishes like chestnut ravioli or noodles with

garlic sauce become masterpieces of color, texture, and flavor. She works a similar magic with the meats of the Valdichiana: Cortonese beefsteak, roast cured pork, and wild boar. All are served with their traditional accompaniment of Tuscan white beans in an earthenware pot. Try to save room for Agostina's handmade desserts, which include everything from fruit pastries to tiramisu. The restaurant's wine cellar, the Vineria Cacioteca, offers over two hundred different regional wines, a quarter of which are from vineyards along the Arezzo wine route. In addition to lunch and dinner, La Bucaccia also features a cheese-tasting course and cooking classes, which are designed to further introduce guests to the products and methods traditional to Cortona and Tuscan gastronomy.