



Fabio Viviani

Executive Chef

Born, Florence, Italy

Fabio Viviani, Owner of *Firenze Osteria* and *Top Chef Season 5 Fan Favorite*, was the stand-out chef on *Top Chef, Season 5*, which was just nominated three times for the 2009 Emmys. Fabio's new show will air in late spring of 2010.

Fabio's new cookbook, *Café Firenze Cookbook, Mangia e Bevi*, co-authored with business partner and best friend since the age of twelve, Jacopo Falleni, was released last summer with a Hollywood style launch at his restaurant, Café Firenze in Moorpark, California.

Fabio began his culinary career at the early age of twelve. Always asking for a chance to cook, he was given the opportunity two years later at fourteen when one busy night the chef cut himself badly and Fabio had the chance to prove himself. He has never looked back.

Fabio attended Italy's Istituto Professionale per I Servizi Alberghieri in Florence, focusing on advanced Tuscan and regional cooking as well as a wide variety of specialization courses. He spent months, sometimes working for free, at regional restaurants and abroad to learn the secrets of master chefs. Currently, Fabio is specializing in Molecular Cuisine, using cutting-edge technology to perfect his art. He describes his style of cooking as "Northern Italian Comfort-styled foods".

Bringing his talent back to his hometown of Florence, Fabio co-owned and managed several high-volume Florentine restaurants. There Fabio won awards for his dry aged steaks at the Sagra Della Bistecca Awards in Cortona and his cheese and wine selections at the 2004 Enofood Awards.

Fabio has organized food events for fashion shows by Roberto Cavalli, Alessandrini, Gucci, and others and acts as a consultant to several Florentine restaurants in the promotion of Tuscan fusion cuisine. Fabio has been personal chef for a number of Italian celebrities.

As owner and Executive Chef of Firenze Osteria in Toluca Lake, California, Chef Viviani brings his Tuscan dishes and Florentine flair to Southern California. His new book is out now with another '*My Son is On Google, Recipes and Memories from an Italian Mom*' is due out fall, 2010.

Outside the kitchen, Fabio enjoys soccer, fishing, and organic gardening.

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