



## COURSES THAT DOUBLE AS A HOLIDAY ABROAD

### Cook like an Italian in Tuscany

**WHERE?** Casa Ombuto, Tuscany (0031 35 5310030; [www.italiancookerycourse.com](http://www.italiancookerycourse.com))  
**Five-day course:** Italian Cookery.  
**HOW MUCH?** From £1320, excluding flights, transfers and insurance.

**What's so good about it?** Good mix of relaxation and cooking. Afternoons are spent cooking, so you have the mornings free to explore your surroundings. 'There are organised trips – we visited church frescoes in Arezzo and saw pecorino cheese being made,' says our tester. 'You also get a day off to explore on your own.'

**The downside?** There are about 12 people to a class and only one teacher, so you're sometimes



Classes are held in the Tuscan countryside

left waiting for the next lot of instructions.

**Worth doing?** 'It was brilliant – so relaxing and inspiring. Paola, our eternally patient teacher, led us through the intricacies of Tuscan cookery, dispelling my illusions that it's all about tossing a few

good ingredients with pasta. Classes were held from 3pm until 7pm, then we'd enjoy the dinner we'd prepared. Now I'm back, my Casa Ombuto cookbook has become a well-worn favourite.'

Text: Claire Allen

