

THIS MONTH'S EXPERTS



KATIA AMORE grew up in southeast Sicily. Her family has always had a passion for food, so it was a natural step for her to open the loveSicily cookery school

in Modica. Visit www.lovesicily.com to find out more or to book a Sicilian cookery break with Katia



STEFANIA RUSSO is director of The Property Organiser, a property-finding service that covers locations across the whole of Italy. The

company also offers a one-stop legal service. For more information visit www.propertyorganiser.co.uk



MICHELE MENATO is an Italian lawyer (avvocato) at the International Property Law Centre, a firm that provides a comprehensive legal service

for clients requiring international legal advice. Find out more by visiting www.internationalpropertylaw.com



FRANCESCA UNSWORTH is *Italia!*'s travel editor and has much experience of journeying in Italy. She can offer the best advice on travelling just

about anywhere in the country, whatever you need to know. Contact her at francesca.unsworth@anthem-publishing.com

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

For advice on everything from holidays and food to property, our *Italia!* experts are here to answer all your questions. Email italia@anthem-publishing.com, or write to the usual address

CALABRIAN DREAM

Q *I've heard Calabria is an up-and-coming region for property and I've started looking into potential areas and opportunities. I'm interested in buying a place to rent out as a holiday property. Do you think this is a good region for an investment opportunity? Also, are there any particular Calabrian towns that you'd recommend?*

Simon Hartley, Sheffield

A Calabria, at the southernmost tip of mainland Italy, basks in year-round sunshine, has nearly 500 miles of stunning coastline and, with property prices significantly cheaper than the rest of the country, it represents an unmissable opportunity to snap up property in Italy at a bargain price.

Whether you are looking for re-sale or new builds there is a wide selection

to choose from. However, if you are buying with the main purpose to rent your property for holidays, remember to choose one as close as possible – ideally walking distance – to the beach, and near villages with services all year round – in particular if you plan to rent the place off season too. You should also ensure that you find somewhere that's no more than a couple of hours from the airport, especially if your clients are going to be coming from overseas.

Many new developments are located in the hills and have spectacular views. For these, ask if there are any shuttle services to the beach – do not just rely on the communal swimming pool!

On the Tyrrhenian coast, and moving southwards from the north of the region, some good areas for considering rental are Diamante (famous for its murals) and Belvedere Marittimo

Beautiful Calabria is a hotspot for property bargains

