

What's in your stocking?

BRING A TASTE OF *LA DOLCE VITA* TO YOUR HOLIDAY WITH THESE GIFT IDEAS....



“Encyclopedia of Pasta”
By Oretta Zanini De Vita
University of California Press
\$29.95

This beautiful volume is the first book to provide a complete history of pasta in Italy, telling its long story via the extravagant variety of shapes it takes and the even greater abundance of names by which it is known. Food scholar Oretta Zanini De Vita traveled to every corner of her native Italy, recording oral histories, delving into long-forgotten family cookbooks, and searching obscure archives to produce this rich and uniquely personal compendium of historical and geographical information. Available at Amazon.com, BarnesandNoble.com or a book store near you.

Authentic Mini Cannoli Kit
Artuso Pastry
\$27.50

This family-owned Bronx pastry shop has been making confections, including cannolis, since 1946. Now you can bring their Italian delicacies home for the holidays with this authentic mini cannoli kit. The kit features 12 miniature cannoli shells and one bag of vanilla cannoli cream with chocolate chips. Artuso is now offering 20 percent off for Mini Cannoli Kit purchases made through January 8, 2010. (Enter code HOLIDAY09.) Available at www.artusopastry.com.



**“Speak Italian:
The Fine Art of the Gesture”**
By Bruno Munari
Chronicle Books
\$14.95

They say that a gesture is worth a thousand words, and when it comes to speaking with your hands, Italians speak volumes. This quirky handbook of Italian gestures, first published in 1958 by renowned Milanese artist and graphic designer Bruno Munari, will help the phalange-phobic decipher the unspoken language of gestures not found in any dictionary. Charming black-and-white photos and wry captions evoke an Italy of days gone by. “Speak Italian” gives a little hand to anyone who has ever been at a loss for words. Available through www.chroniclebooks.com or other book stores.



“La Cucina: The Regional Cooking of Italy”
Compiled by the Italian Academy of Cuisine
Rizzoli International Publications
\$45

Fifty years ago, a group of Italians passionate about preserving Italy’s culinary heritage banded together and formed the Accademia Italiana della Cucina. Their primary goal was to collect and document the rich and varied cuisine of Italy’s 20 regions. In 2001, the Academy gathered 2,000 recipes and compiled them in one single volume, published in Italy to great success. Now, for the first time, “La Cucina: The Regional Cooking of Italy” has been published in the English language. Available at Amazon.com, BarnesandNoble.com or a book store near you.

**2-CD Set: “Italian Christmas” and
“Italy in Song”**
The Metropolitan Museum of Art
\$29.95

Available through the Metropolitan Museum of Art, this 2-CD set features Italian-themed music that’s sure to be the perfect backdrop to your holiday meal. “Italian Christmas” includes holiday selections in Italian and English by well-known performers, including legendary soprano Kathleen Battle and pop singers Bobby Darin and Joni James. “Italy in Song” highlights Italian culture through iconic singers such as Nat King Cole and Museum performer José Carreras. Produced exclusively for the Museum. Approximately 50 minutes each. Available at The Metropolitan Museum of Art or one of its stores. Call 1-800-662-3397 for Customer Service or shop online at store.metmuseum.org.





The Antipasto Basket
Bagliani's Market
\$99.99

Based in Hammonton, New Jersey, Bagliani's Market specializes in shipping gift baskets packed with Italian delicacies across the country. Visit their Web site to choose from a selection of choices including The Antipasto Basket, packed with the market's dried sausage, aged Asiago cheese, oil-cured olives, Soppresata, baby salami, roasted peppers and marinated artichokes. Other choices include The Dolcissimo Basket, The Taste of Italy Basket and The Italian Dinner Basket. Available at www.baglianis.com or by calling 609-561-0693.

Utensil Holder/Wine Chiller and Utensils
Artistica.com
\$118 and \$48, respectively

This nine-inch-high Aranci Collection utensil holder/wine chiller (item 3829/B) features oranges and lemons embellished with arabesque leaves and cobalt blue trim. Purposely selected for decorating the kitchen, its design was inspired by an original Majolica piece from the 15th century. The 12-inch-long utensils (item 1570), made in Deruta, Italy, are wood with hand-painted ceramic handles featuring decorative lemons. Utensils and utensil holder sold separately. Available at www.artistica.com.



The Dolce Vita Pen
Delta S.r.L.
\$215 - \$625

The Dolce Vita pen features the same dark orange color visible throughout Italy where the Mediterranean sun and rocky hillsides meet. Each pen is created by hand in Italy, using generations-old skills passed down from artisan to artisan. The Dolce Vita collection also includes leather goods and other accessories. The Dolce Vita collection is available at fine stores worldwide including Fahrney's in Washington, D.C. Call 1-800-624-PENS (7367) or visit www.FahrneysPens.com.

