

Boulogne-Billancourt, November 4, 2014

The 2015 MICHELIN guide Italy features 332 starred restaurants

Italy once again ranks second worldwide for the breadth of its restaurant selection, with around 60 new high-quality entries

“Today, we are pleased to celebrate 60 years of excellence in Italian cuisine, an excellence that has constantly radiated well beyond the country’s borders,” said Michael Ellis, International Director of the MICHELIN guides, in his opening address at the launch of the 60th MICHELIN guide Italy.

This year, the selection features **two new 🌟🌟 restaurants** – **Il Piccolo Principe** in Viareggio, Tuscany and **Taverna Estia** in Bruscianno, Campania, which are both headed by chefs from the Campania region.

Among the **27 new 🌟 restaurants**, the following entries particularly stand out: **Le Tre Lune** in Calenzano, Tuscany. After learning the trade in prestigious cooking schools around the world, three young friends have returned to their native region and united their talents to create gastronomic dishes inspired by French cuisine, using fresh, seasonal products; **Damini Macelleria & Affini** in Arzignano, Veneto. The restaurant inside this historic butcher shop – owned by the fourth generation of a family of butchers – has been awarded a star for passion and excellence; **Iyo** in Milan, Lombardy. With a name derived from the Japanese art genre *ukiyo-e*, this fusion restaurant applies a creative, westernized approach to traditional Japanese dishes and offers a grand finale of European sweets and Asian fruits; **L’Imbuto** in Lucca, Tuscany. This restaurant draws inspiration from the Lucca Center of Contemporary Art in which it is located. The cuisine proposed by chef Cristiano Tomei is firmly rooted in traditional home cooking but so creative and complex that it provides museum-goers with a not-to-be-missed gastronomic experience.

Once again, **many talented young chefs** have been recognized in the selection and awarded their first or second coveted star. Among the new entries, in fact, **11 chefs are under 35**.

With around **370 new entries**, the 60th MICHELIN guide Italy offers readers a choice from among more than **6,500 restaurants** located in over 2,000 cities and towns across the country.

Commenting on the selection, Sergio Lovrinovich, editor-in-chief of the MICHELIN guide Italy: “As we head towards 2015, we’re seeing more and more talented young chefs doing creative, exciting things with high-quality products. Constantly changing consumer tastes are driving innovation and fusion with oriental flavors, a trend that can probably be attributed to globalization. But what makes the difference in Italy is the fact that these changes are taking

place in perfect harmony with the fundamental ‘ingredients’ on which Italian cuisine has been based for the past 60 years and more – shared enjoyment, respect for nature, high-quality products and family tradition; in other words, with passion.”

To coincide with the release of the 60th MICHELIN guide Italy, Michelin is launching a new app that enables users to access all of the restaurants featured in the 2015 guide, share opinions and photos with other users, create their own list of favorites and get directions to the establishment of their choice, in just a few clicks.

Michael Michael Ellis, International Director of the MICHELIN guides, comments “The MICHELIN guide Italy has been reflecting travelers' changing tastes and practices and their new expectations with regard to services and amenities since 1956. Over the past 60 years, travel and technology have evolved considerably. In today’s increasingly connected world, the *MICHELIN Ristoranti* app represents a new social tool that Michelin has decided to make available to everyone, free of charge. As always, Michelin remains dedicated to improving mobility, by continuously developing new, up-to-date solutions that meet the needs of all types of travelers.”

The MICHELIN guide Italy 2015, which goes on sale on November 6, includes:

- ✓ 8 🌸🌸🌸 restaurants
- ✓ 39 🌸🌸 restaurants (of which 2 new)
- ✓ 285 🌸 restaurants (of which 27 new)
- ✓ 296 🍷 restaurants (of which 30 new)

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