

# ask olive

Got a cooking, restaurant, wine or travel question? Let **olive's** experts help you out



**I've seen a couple of recipes in olive that include girolles. I've only once seen fresh girolles in my local Waitrose. They were delicious. Where can I buy them in season (I'm in the south of England)?**

*Jan Collinge*

**LULU** Girolles (aka chanterelles) are in season from June to February, and a good way of getting hold of them is to buy them online. [smithymushrooms.co.uk](http://smithymushrooms.co.uk) sells girolles (from £7.95/150g) and a mixed selection, woodland mushroom feast (£22.95). You might like its cultivated exotic mushrooms such as pied blu and buna shimeji (beech mushrooms). Fresh girolles are also available from [efoodies.co.uk](http://efoodies.co.uk) (£14.95/250g). If you want a challenge, [gardeningexpress.co.uk](http://gardeningexpress.co.uk) sells kits so that you can grow your very own morels (£39.95).

**Over the past few summer holidays I've collected bottles of wine from trips to France and now can't remember anything about them - what grape varieties or what food they go with. Is there a way of finding out online?**

*S Cary*

**MAX** Apart from the obvious sites – Google or Wikipedia (the latter's page on [French wine](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/French_wine) is comprehensive, [en.wikipedia.org/wiki/French\\_wine](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/French_wine)), try these: [frenchwinesfood.com](http://frenchwinesfood.com) or [terroir-france.com](http://terroir-france.com) are both quite helpful and easy to use, and they are full of links to other sites that tackle various wine regions of France in more detail.

**We are currently organising our honeymoon and would like to travel around England going to gigs, football matches and nice restaurants! Any recommendations for restaurants in Sheffield?**

*Hazel Brain*

**CHRIS** Your honeymoon plan sounds like fun. One Sheffield place on my radar (though I haven't visited yet) is The Cricket Inn in Totley (pictured below), near Sheffield United's ground. The pub boasts that it's 'ideal for muddy boots, dogs and families' – so no need to dress up after the match. Having said that, posher dishes such as venison steak (£16.50) and breadcrumb pork belly with sweet and sour red cabbage (£13) rub shoulders on the menu with pub classics such as steak and kidney pie (£12) and chef Jack Baker's signature fish pie (£12), so it's also a nice place for a relaxed, but smart dinner. (0114 236 5256; [cricketinn.co.uk](http://cricketinn.co.uk)). It's part of a group of pubs and restaurants run by Brewkitchen, who are passionate about locally sourced, well-prepared food and beer. Their other places, also worth investigating, are The Inn at Troway (which is equidistant from the grounds of Chesterfield and Sheffield United) and restaurants Artisan and Catch in Crosspool, which is near the grounds of both Sheffield Wednesday and Sheffield United ([artisanscatch.co.uk](http://artisanscatch.co.uk)).



**COOKING**  
LULU GRIMES



**RESTAURANTS**  
CHRISTINE HAYES



**WINE**  
MAX ALLEN



**TRAVEL**  
ALISON BOWLES



**Can you suggest a pub with a real fire, great food and chic rooms that's at the end of a stunning country walk, ideally not more than an hour from London?**

*Ohna Falby*

**ALISON** The Crown Inn at Chiddingfold in the Surrey Hills has had an extensive refurbishment that, rather than ripping out its soul (sadly the case with too many old pubs), has produced one of the best pubs in Britain. It has the wood panelling, comfy sofas and roaring fires you'd hope for, plus a great menu which includes

favourites such as spinach, caramelised red onion and balsamic tart, braised lamb shank, and fish and chips (mains from £9). There are three doubles at £125 per room b&b, but it's worth splashing out on one of the four huge, beamed four-poster bedrooms in the oldest part of the pub, at £140-£200 per room b&b. The Surrey Hills (Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty) offer stunning views and mile after mile of tracks for walking through woodland and over rolling chalk hills. ([thecrownchiddingfold.com](http://thecrownchiddingfold.com)).

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