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6 NIGHTS FROM **£379** PER PERSON

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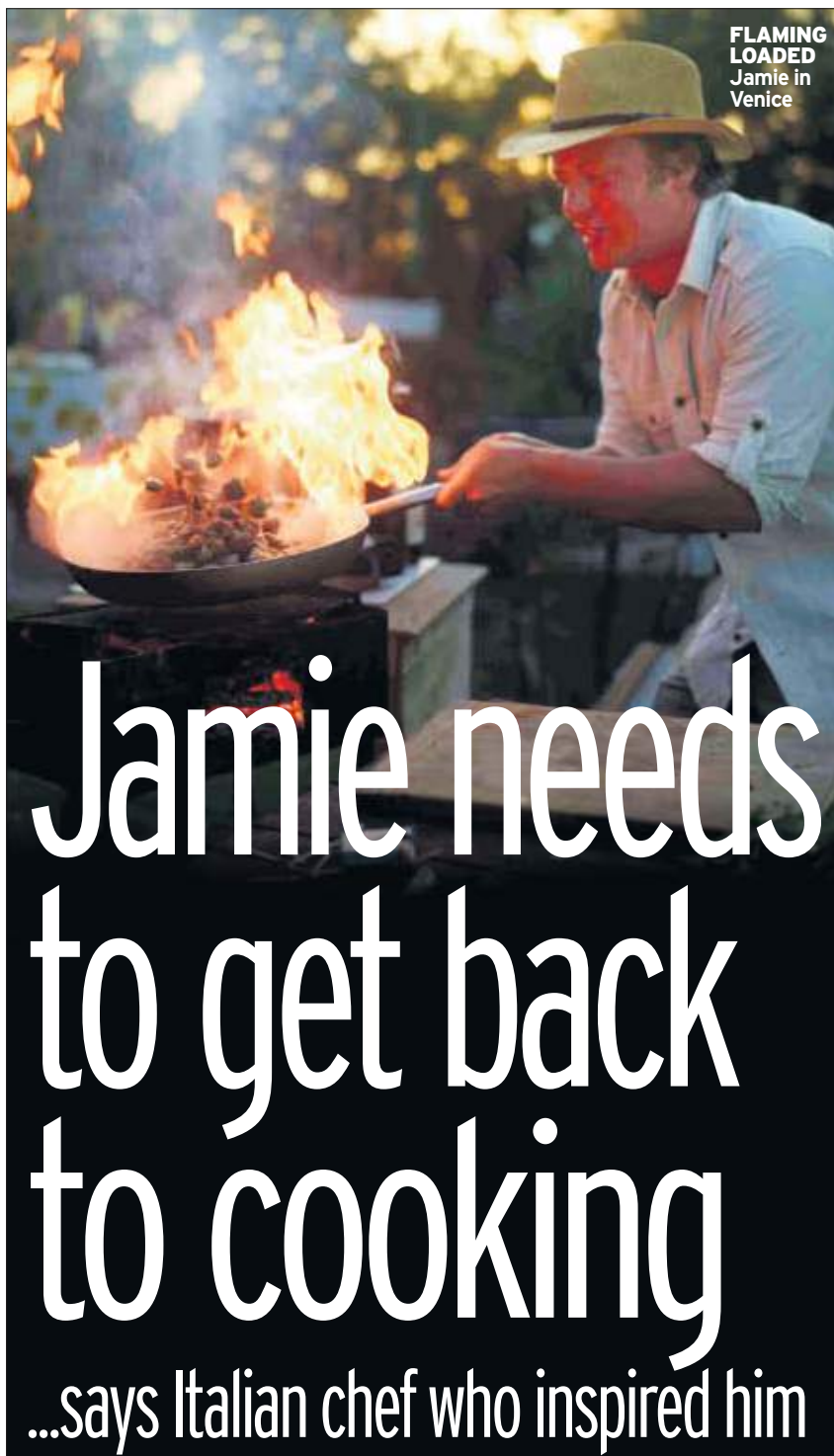
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- Train transfer between cities
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Selected dates July, August & November 2017 from London airports (other months available at a supplement)



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FLAMING LOADED Jamie in Venice

Jamie needs to get back to cooking

...says Italian chef who inspired him

EXCLUSIVE BY SHARON FEINSTEIN

A FOOD guru who inspired Jamie Oliver's love of Italian cuisine has urged him to take a break from TV and focus on cooking again.

Marco Bergamasco said: "He has become more like an actor than a cook. He should go back to his roots."

Venice-based Marco was shocked when his celebrity pal shut six of his restaurants earlier this year.

"I really didn't think they could decline the way they seemed to have, with so many closing, because he seemed a good cook," he said.

"He has gone too far away from his beginnings of being a cook and taken it more into a brand, with marketing, an empire. Maybe he lost the focus.

"He's not a chef any longer, he's a manager, because he isn't just cooking, he's writing books, selling products."

This month Jamie, 41, struck a multi-million-pound deal with Channel 4, including a new TV series this autumn, Jamie's Quick & Easy, which will be accompanied by a book. The three-year agreement extends his relationship with the channel to 17 years.

Marco, 54, who runs a stall in Venice's Rialto Fish Market, met the dad of five when he was making a programme in Italy two years ago. He reckons the Naked Chef star would be happier back in the kitchen than on TV.

"Jamie was so great, humble, respectful, simple and hugely wanted to learn and understand the fish and



FISH AND TIPS Marco inspects catch

the lagoon," he said. "I gave him as much Venetian cooking knowledge as I could. I passed on my grandmother's recipes, taught him how to open an eel, swore at him because he did it wrong. "He put my recipes into his book word for word, published them and demonstrated them on TV. He was my idol, it was an honour for me to have Jamie there and tell him these things."

Marco has invited Jamie to return to Venice and cook with him again to rediscover what Italy has to offer.

"This is the right place because you have no distractions. He will remind himself of his original ideas."

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'LIKE A FRIEND' The Pope's trip to Portaloo gets wee tweeted

BY KAREN ROCKETT

POPE Francis stunned residents in a poor neighbourhood by popping into a portable loo.

The 80-year-old pontiff stopped to spend a penny during a tour of Milan's working-class district.

Father Antonio Spadaro tweeted a snap of him emerging from it saying he "uses a chemical toilet like ordinary people".

The Pope visited three families, including the home of Mihoual Abdel Karim, a Moroccan Muslim migrant. Mihoual said: "It was like having a friend in the house."

The Pope was on his way to visit an elderly couple when he spotted the loo put there for the crowds - and dived straight in.

The Pope later had lunch with 100 prisoners at the city's San Vittore jail.



BRUISED Steve Meredith

Bodyguard battered by hit-run fiend

BY KAREN ROCKETT

TOM Cruise's British bodyguard has released a picture of his bloodied face to try to find the "scum" who drove straight at him in a hit-and-run.

Steve Meredith, 33, said a gold convertible Renault Megane beeped and flashed its lights behind him on a country road, so he stopped to let it pass.

When it stayed put, he got out to see if everything was all right but the driver accelerated into him.

Steve - who found fame as the "hipster" bodyguard to stars such as George Clooney and Brad Pitt - said: "I smashed my head on the windscreen. My body is battered and bruised. Hopefully police will find the scum."

Police are probing the incident on the A38 near Tewkesbury, Gloucs.