

Cognoscenti

magazine

Because life is short

DELIZIE D'UGGIANO
PARIS, FRANCE

This attractive Tuscan restaurant maximizes its storefront along busy rue Duphot by spreading over three tiers: a boutique level at the entrance, a 16th century wine *cave* downstairs, and dining rooms upstairs. All three levels are linked by a tightly wound, charming spiral staircase. The ground level boutique glows like the generous Tuscan sun with opulent yellow cloths on tables and chair cushions, rich *faïence* plates from Tuscany, and a selection of wines.

The upstairs dining area is separated into three separate rooms, each made intimate with candlelit tables—and a highly uncomfortable seating arrangement created by unfortunately chosen dining tables equipped with a knee-level wrought iron base that makes sliding beneath the table akin to slipping one's legs into a metal vise. The restaurant is nicely decorated with vintage posters, Italian bar mirrors and old engravings, while lyric opera music plays in the background.

Chef Massimo Curti offers a traditional Tuscan menu. An antipasto selection of vegetables in pickled marinade with cold cuts led the way for us, along with a rather oily arugula salad. In the main courses, endive added a welcome touch to an otherwise dullish dish on the veal escalope with black truffle. Risotto was creamy and firm to the tooth—but the dish was rather flat and uninteresting. Overall, the impression of lightness seemed to be missing from this cuisine.

A seductively charming **Uggiano Chianti Riserva 1997** was decanted at table. Caramel and vanilla



*Chef Massimo Curti and
Manager Maria Grazia Analdi*

showed in the nose, with ripe cranberry fruit and lead pencil on the supple palate and globs of chocolate appearing in the finish—we could nearly taste the hot Tuscan sun!

This article was written by contributing editors to *Cognoscenti Magazine*.

© 2003 *Cognoscenti Magazine*

Delizie d'Uggiano

18, rue Duphot

75001 Paris

France

Ph: 33 (0)1-40-15-06-69

Email: losapiog@wanadoo.fr