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For Immediate Release

The Travel Department Serve 'A Taste of France' for Irish Foodies

If you are embarrassed by your culinary skills in the kitchen or want to become the next Trish Deseine, you can now experience the best of French food culture in a specially tailored French culinary holiday.

'A Taste of France', a new five night Cooking & Gourmet Holiday on the Cote D'Azur, will take place in September 2009 and feature cookery classes at a leading French culinary school in Cannes. The package also includes direct flights from Dublin to Nice, Hotel accommodation in Cannes, evening meals at local restaurants, food sourcing at local markets and transfers and excursions.

Stephen Glavin, Marketing Manager, The Travel Department said:

"The Taste of France package captures the best of food culture in the south of France. It's perfect for people who really want to experience the complete French culinary process – from sourcing food at the world famous Antibes Market through to preparation and cooking at a renowned Cannes culinary school led by an English speaking Chef. Customers also get to enjoy a range of French cuisine from simple regional meals through to signature dishes and southern French haute cuisine. There's also plenty of time for relaxing, sightseeing and shopping in the bustling and culture rich cites of Cannes and Antibes."

The Cote'Azur Cooking & Gourmet Holiday is the first in a new series of culinary holiday packages to Europe organised by The Travel Department. Each package features a European destination noted for its outstanding food culture where customers can source the best food and ingredients and learn new culinary secrets and techniques.

Prices for The 5 night Cote'Azur Cooking & Gourmet Holiday are available from €749 and include:

- 5 nights hotel accommodation in Cannes at the Hotel Mondial on a B&B basis www.hotellemondial.com
- Welcome dinner at a local restaurant in Cannes
- Cookery classes with an English speaking chef at Les Apprentis Gourmets Cookery School in Cannes - www.lesapprentisgourmets.fr
- Guided visit to a local food market followed by a morning lesson in the cookery school with lunch
- Half day cookery class followed by tea and pastries at the school
- Half day cookery class followed by dinner at the school

- Full day excursion including visits to the food and fish market in Antibes and the picturesque village of St.Paul de Vence with free time for lunch. In the afternoon, continue to Grasse for an Olive & Pistou workshop where you will get to make your own Mediterranean pastes, such as pesto and tapenade.
- Evening meal at 'La Brouette de Grande Mere' (wine included with dinner)
- Free time for sightseeing and shopping
- Return transfer with guide assistance to Nice Airport for flight to Dublin
- Guide assistance for all transfers and excursions

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For further information please contact XXXXXXXXXXX on XXXXXXXXXXX.

The Travel Department

The Travel Department is a leading operator of escorted holidays worldwide.

The Travel Department's packages range from popular city breaks, European touring holidays, Mediterranean cruises and long-haul packages to Asia, America and Africa.

Full details of all holidays are available on www.thetraveldepartment.ie or by calling 01 637 1600.