

**CHEF TODD KNISS OF BISTRO LIAISON, BERKELEY, LAUNCHES  
CULINARY ADVENTURE TRAVEL TO SOUTHWEST FRANCE**

Place: The Lot Valley, province of Quercy, southwest France

Date: September 8th - 15th

Contact person: Chef Todd Kniss

Phone number: 510-849-2155

Berkeley, CA. Chef Todd Kniss, Chef/Owner of Bistro Liaison in Berkeley, California, creates Culinary Adventures; a one-week culinary journey in southwest France. Steeped in rich history and dramatic landscapes, the province of Quercy - and the Lot Valley - is a renowned gastronomic region particularly for its: truffles, goat cheese ("cabacous,") "pastis" apple dessert, walnut oil, duck, Cahors red wine, rhubarb jam, and foie gras.

Chef Todd invites 14 guests to join him prepare meals from the local farmer's markets, dine in the historic towns and restaurants, visit with farmers and wine makers, and tour the unspoiled scenery and historic architecture.

The province of Quercy is home to 2nd Century [l.c.] Roman aqueducts, chateaux and castles dating back to the 8th through the 14th centuries, and to 20,000-year-old cave paintings at Pech-Merle, rated a 3-star attraction by Michelin.

"This is an incredible food region and historic region. The human history dates back 20,000 years. I was taken back when I first visited the area. Americans don't really know about it - yet. I want to bring others to discover it with me, especially the truffles." says Chef Kniss.

Guiding the group through the Lot Valley will be Barbara Phillips, founder/director of Latitude Cultural Center. Founded in 1998, Latitude is a community center located in a rural hamlet at the base of limestone cliffs and framed by semi-troglodyte homes. It is headquartered in a restored 14th century flour mill. Barbara is Professor Emerita of Sociology & Urban Studies at San Francisco State University and attended the Institut des Etudes Politiques (Sciences Po) in Paris during her junior year at Sweetbriar College.

For more information on Culinary Adventures, please visit:

[www.liaisonbistro.com](http://www.liaisonbistro.com)

[www.latitude.org](http://www.latitude.org)