

What kind of Foodie are you?

Who can resist a quiz? Are you a soft-core gastronaut who might not know a mandarin from a mandoline, yet are more than eager to learn, or a hardcore gastronome dedicated to expanding your culinary boundaries and eager to debate the finer differences between tataki and ceviche?

1. How often do you think about food a day?

- A Rarely; you're preoccupied with more esoteric matters
- B Almost constantly and definitely in-between meals
- C Only when your tummy rumbles

2. How do you choose your holiday destinations?

- A The loveliness of the beach – though a seaside shack selling chargrilled tentacle-twirling squid is a bonus
- B By their proximity to hallowed food markets and iconic restaurants
- C The lure of as much food as you can eat does it for you

3. What's your idea of a serious shopping day out?

- A A day food shopping is a day wasted, who needs to touch, smell and salivate when it can all be done via the Internet
- B A dawn-raid on your local farmers' market in preparation for supper, a mercy dash across town to the Iranian grocery for breads and spices, a rout around a specialist food bookshop and an hour or so of mentally, at least, up-grading your kit in a gleaming kitchenware shop
- C Clothes, shoes, DVDs, lunch-on-the-go in a farmers' market and a quick dash into a chi-chi traiteur for supper

4. What are you most likely to dream of?

- A Being holed up with a luscious Hollywood star
- B A huge steaming plate of linguini dripping with white truffle, with the rest of the truffle and grater casually left on the table to help yourself
- C A Champagne breakfast in bed, even if the croissants have been reheated

5. How do you like to celebrate your birthday?

- A As usual at your favourite local gastro-restaurant, though you have a sneaky suspicion you've had the seabass with lobster tortellini three years in a row now
- B You like to be surprised by dinner at a wondrous new off-the-celebrity-circuit discovery with a menu full of arcane, yet delectable delicacies
- C You'll settle for nothing less than the full three Michelin star experience, preferably with more than a nod to Adria-ism

6. What does thinking seasonally mean to you?

- A Time to consider up-grading the people carrier – the neighbours have the identical model and the top-of-the-range has far more room for the weekly food shop
- B Eagerly anticipating the first of the season's wet walnuts and damsons
- C It can only mean the fashion catwalk collections and another diet

7. What works for you to relieve tension and stress?

- A Long country walks – but only if there's a fair chance of scooping up some delicious wild mushrooms
- B Making a feel-good minestrone, preferably with some wonderfully fresh borlotti beans
- C Eating a large bar of the highest cocoa percentage chocolate you can lay your hands on in one sitting

8. How far would you travel for a decent loaf of bread?

- A The celebrity chef 'hand-baked' bread at your local supermarket stands up to the hype
- B Distance is no object when a good crust and toothsome texture are at stake, and you'll purchase a stash for the freezer to justify the journey
- C No distance; you were given a bread-maker and you actually still use it

9. How do you prefer your cheese?

- A Delicate and not too pongy
- B Pulsatingly strong or oozing seductively, definitely unpasturised and preferably very young or well-matured
- C You're a pushover when it comes to sherry-rubbed rind manchego and vine leaf-wrapped goat's cheese

10. When was the last time you experienced liquid nitrogen?

- A In chemistry lessons at school
- B As a savoury meringue *amuse* when you finally secured a table at Heston Blumenthal's The Fat Duck
- C What's that doing in a Foodie quiz? Is it something to do with those alchemist chefs?

11. What's your bedside reading?

- A A thriller called *Juiced* with a rather explicit picture of a blood orange on the cover, a gripping read of Sicilian mafia exploits and culinary accidents
- B The latest Foodie memoir by one of your all-time culinary icons – after sacrificing lunch (almost unheard of) to queue for a dedicated copy, you're hoping it will inspire you to write your own similar oeuvre
- C An ever growing stack of lasciviously illustrated cookbooks, containing both favourite recipes and those you drool over, but would never actually attempt

12. Who are you most likely to confide in on a weekly basis?

- A Your masseur/therapist
- B Your local butcher who always saves veal bones for you
- C Your best friend

13. What's your understanding of eating more adventurously?

- A Splashing out on the latest celebrity chef regional-Indian-for-the-supermarket ready-meal with the enticing packaging
- B Making a point, once a month, of buying an ingredient you have never cooked before and finding a recipe for it
- C Drizzling truffle oil lavishly over your habitual repertoire

MOSTLY As: FRANKLY YOU ARE SCARCELY ON THE FOODIE RADAR. YOU PROBABLY INTEND THIS AS A GIFT, BUT YOU JUST MIGHT DEVELOP CRAVINGS FOR SOURDOUGH AND FONDUTA

MOSTLY Bs: YOU'RE A NEAR ENOUGH PERFECT SCRUMMY FOODIE, LIABLE TO DISPLAY PAROXYSMS OF PLEASURE AT A MERE SIGHTING OF SEA URCHIN ROE OR SHISO CRESS – JUST BE CAREFUL TO KEEP A SENSE OF PROPORTION AND HUMOUR ABOUT YOUR FASTIDIOUS DEDICATION TO CULINARY NIRVANA

MOSTLY Cs: YOU'RE FAST BECOMING A FLUENT FOODIE, BUT BEWARE OF THE FAUX FOODIE HYPE