

Letter from Chef Alessandro

June 2023

Dear friends, family and patrons,

These last few years have been years full of growth, joy, success, satisfaction but also full of hard work, dedication and a lot of sacrifice. Mangia Cucina has been the culmination of our journey in Vancouver and I am very proud of it and what it has become. We have now officially closed our doors.

As a Chef I clearly know this is not where I want to stop, the culinary mountain is a big one to climb. I believe that in order to keep on climbing I have to be courageous enough to leave all that we have built behind so that I can grow further.

I am extremely glad that Vancouver has been part of my culinary journey. I want to thank all the people that made our growth possible - all the staff throughout the years, the loyal customers, our friends and also the people that didn't think we would make it.

Above all, I would like to thank my wife for staying strong during the years and for allowing me to express myself professionally, culinary and personally. There will not be Mangia Cucina without her and I'm happy we made it through together.

As many of you already know, our new project <u>VIAGGIA</u> will allow me to fulfill a long-term dream by taking you on a culinary tour of my home island to help you discover the aromas and colors of Sicily and bring you closer to the source, which made me fall in love with cooking.

We approach the end of Mangia Cucina with a lot of appreciation for what we have accomplished and a positive attitude for what comes next. We thank you again for your support throughout the years.

We hope to meet in Sicily soon! Grazie mille!

Chef Alessandro Riccobono

Vancouver, BC

P.S. - You can follow our new adventure here: <u>www.viaggia.ca</u>