

Matteo Cafagna
Chef de Cuisine, La Scala at The Sukhothai Shanghai



“Cooking with passion means sharing love; a form of universal communication that explains who we are, how we grew up and where we come from”

As Chef de Cuisine of La Scala, the Italian restaurant at The Sukhothai Shanghai, Matteo Cafagna leads the team to craft unique experiences for guests making for a quintessentially Italian gastronomic journey.

With 15-year experience, the young talented Chef Matteo has built his reputation for his modern Italian cuisine and dedication to authentic flavours and fresh produce. Matteo's first exposure to the culinary industry came as he pursued a degree in Technical Services Catering in Italy. During the school years, Matteo worked in the restaurants and confirmed his inkling that a career as a chef was the right path to pursue.

After graduation in 2008, Matteo began his career as a Commis and quickly moved up the ladder. He has held various kitchen positions, including Demichef de Partie, Chef de Partie, and Sous Chef for the one Michelin-star restaurant Johannes Stube at Hotel Engel Resort & Spa. Before joining The Sukhothai Shanghai, Matteo was the Chef of the gourmet restaurant Ottonella at the five-star hotel Hotel Villa Ottone on the beautiful island of Elba.

Matteo's approach consists of keeping dishes simple, yet delectable, and allowing the ingredients to speak for themselves, always attune to maintaining a balance in flavour. Seeking to further cultivate his expertise, Matteo decided to move to Shanghai, China to become a Chef de Cuisine with the chef-partner Theodor Falser at La Scala to interpret the philosophy of food sustainability.

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With a focus on food sustainability, menus will evolve to reflect the changing seasons and ingredients that accompany them.

Matteo enjoys sharing his passion of Italian cuisine by interacting with patrons. He often makes visits to the tables to check and make sure everyone is having a good time. When he is not at the restaurant, Matteo loves spending time surfing on the internet for ideas and coaching tennis.

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