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Di Palo's and Lidia Bastianich Launch Online Partnership

Di Palo's Fine Foods and best-selling Italian cookbook author, restaurateur and TV host Lidia Bastianich have teamed up to help home chefs locate the quality Italian ingredients needed to cook a gourmet Italian feast.

Bastianich, host of the Emmy-nominated cooking program, "Lidia's Italy," is partnering with Lou Di Palo and his www.dipaloselects.com -- the online extension of New York City's fourth-generation store, Di Palo's Fine Foods -- to provide a place to find the freshest, highest-quality, Italian ingredients to use in her recipes. Now, Bastianich's fans can find the essentials they need: Grana Padano cheese, fine olive oils, hard-to-find cuts of pasta and more online at Di Palo Selects.

"Visitors to my Web site (www.lidiasitaly.com) and people who watch my show and read my books always ask the same question: 'Where can I find the ingredients I need to try your recipes at home?'" said Bastianich. "I'm now proud to be able to offer specialty food items selected by my good friend Lou Di Palo, who is as passionate about quality Italian food products as I am about Italian cuisine."

Di Palo's Fine Foods has long had the reputation of importing the finest-quality Italian delicacies to food lovers in New York, and Lou Di Palo has earned a reputation as one of America's foremost authorities on the specialty artisan foods of Italy. Bastianich and Di Palo share a common goal of making Italy's rich culinary heritage accessible to food lovers all over the United States.