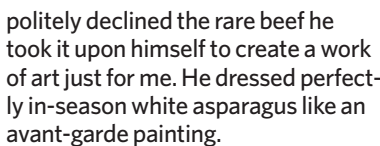


In class we were learning to create our own masterpiece, a traditional Provençal meal of cod with prosciutto, marinated peppers and Barigoule, a local recipe of braised artichokes with onions, tomatoes, bacon, thyme and bay leaf. The meal was to be started, of course, by everyone's favourite hors d'oeuvre, olive tapenade. The crusty bread, all cut up, waited naked in baskets for its olive dressing.

In this moment of panic, it seemed



For an interactive snapshot/diary
of the cuisine of Provence go to
thestar.com/france

Jennifer Bill's trip was subsidized by Air Transat, Atout France and its partners. Follow her on her blog, billofwrites.ca/blog, on Twitter @billjennifer, and Pinterest: pinterest.com/billofwrites.

Air Transat has launched a seasonal, eight-hour direct flight from Toronto to Marseille once per week until Oct. 13. Splurge a little on Club Class and enjoy priority check-in, extra baggage allowance, complimentary champagne, cocktails and wine, spacious leather seats and extra leg room in your own cabin. Transat gives passengers the option to fly into one city and fly out of another. Visit airtransat.ca.

Leave your schedule up to Transat Holidays' expert planners and sign on for an escorted, city-hopping package that will take you, for instance, to Marseille, Nice, Aix-en-Provence, Eze and Monaco. Visit transatholidays.ca.

A \$40-million renovation is under way at the Marseille Provence Airport. This will expand its second terminal and add more shops and restaurants. Visit marseille-airport.com.



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