

FASHION

Founders of The Cook's Atelier, a family-run French cooking school, culinary boutique and wine shop located in Beaune, France, Marjorie and Kendall love classic French apparel, and embrace a "less is more" approach to styling.

The style diary

CLASSIC CHIC SUMS UP MOTHER-DAUGHTER DUO
MARJORIE TAYLOR AND KENDALL SMITH FRANCHINI.

WORDS HANNAH JAMES PHOTOGRAPHY ABBIE MELLÉ





MARJORIE TAYLOR AND KENDALL SMITH FRANCHINI

COOKS AND ENTREPRENEURS, 60 AND 41 RESPECTIVELY

Marjorie and Kendall run their cooking school, The Cook's Atelier, in the small town of Beaune in the French countryside. Marjorie resides in town with her partner, while Kendall lives with her husband Laurent, 44, and their children – Luc, 11, Manon, nine, and Lou, four – (plus Rousseau the golden retriever, cats Pia, Jack and Coco, and six hens) in a stone house in the woods.

What do you love about living in the country?

Marjorie: Beaune is a small town, but the best part is it is surrounded by vineyards and quaint wine villages. I get my 'dose' of country when I visit Kendall and Laurent.

Kendall: I love living in the country because we're able to have a garden, chickens and bees. It's important to us that our children are brought up surrounded by that.

Have you always lived in the country?

Marjorie: No, I was born and raised in Phoenix, Arizona.

Kendall: As was I. It has been an absolute dream to be able to create a life in Burgundy.

How would you describe your style?

Marjorie: Kendall and I both like natural fabrics such as linen, creamy whites and a neutral colour palette.

Kendall: We like to keep it clean and simple and we make a point to use these things we love every day.

Are you interested in fashion?

Marjorie: My go-to is always a nice pair of jeans and a white button-up.

Kendall: I like a simple linen dress and tend to lean more classic than trendy.

Who are your style influences?

Marjorie: I'm a big fan of Linda Wright, an American expat and the owner of a lovely shop in Paris who exudes understated elegance.

Kendall: As a busy mother of three, I am influenced by a clean, simple style. Pulled together, but nothing too precious or time-consuming.

What's the best style advice you've ever received?

Marjorie: Quality versus quantity.

Kendall: Buy the things you love that will last a lifetime.

What are your favourite clothing labels?

Marjorie: Nothing beats a pair of Levi's 501 jeans and a great wrap.

Kendall: Frank & Eileen for casual outfits and workwear.

Where do you shop for clothing and accessories?

Marjorie: I prefer a great copper pot over a pair of shoes.

Kendall: Beaune is a fairly small town with not much in the way of great clothes shopping. Every once in a while, we'll take a quick trip to Paris (only three hours by high-speed train) to find something special.

What are your essential beauty products?

Marjorie: Simple soap and water, and a nice moisturiser.

Kendall: Clean beauty products with a great sunblock.

Do you have a favourite fragrance?

Marjorie: Since I spend so much time in the kitchen, I don't wear much perfume. When I do, I keep it light.

Kendall: I lean more to clean, citrus-based notes.

Do you have any favourite accessories?

Marjorie: A big tote bag.

Kendall: Simple vintage earrings from my mum.

What helps you keep a balanced life?

Marjorie: Regular exercise and a great morning cup of tea.

Kendall: Long walks and time outside in nature.

What are you reading/listening to/watching?

Marjorie: I read cookbooks like novels. I especially love MFK Fisher, Elizabeth David and, of course, Julia Child. I'm always listening to Van Morrison and Joan Baez.

Kendall: I've been reading books on gardening, chicken-keeping and beekeeping. I'm on an Eric Bibb and Keb' Mo' kick. You can find The Cook's Atelier playlist on Spotify.

What do you never leave home without?

Marjorie: My glasses!

Kendall: My moleskin to jot down notes and ideas.

Where are your favourite spots to shop for homewares?

Marjorie: Brocantes (flea markets).

Kendall: Fermob and The Cook's Atelier.

What makes your region a special place to live?

Marjorie: On our first visit to Beaune, we fell in love with the idyllic surroundings, villages and slow rhythm of life.

Kendall: We love the distinct seasons and the fact that it stills feels like 'real' France. *CS*



CLOCKWISE, FROM LEFT Kendall and Marjorie have created a thriving kitchen garden at Kendall's home, The Woodland House; charming streetscapes surround the local produce markets; sweet delights; Kendall and Marjorie were drawn to Beaune's authentic French ambience and natural beauty; the Burgundy region provides a bounty of seasonal fruits and vegetables. **FACING PAGE** The pair enjoys regular trips to the markets to stock up on delicious fresh produce and bouquets of flowers.



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Golden retriever Rousseau enjoys a stroll as Marjorie and Kendall take fresh clippings from the garden. **FACING PAGE** The duo opts for simple, comfortable garments in neutral tones.



“On our first visit to Beaune, we fell in love with the idyllic surroundings, villages and slow rhythm of life.”



light touch

STAPLES IN WHITE, TAN AND DENIM APPEAL TO MARJORIE AND KENDALL.

PRODUCED BY SAFFRON SYLVESTER

- 1 Bruno shirt dress in Cream, \$400, from Camilla and Marc.
- 2 Classic wrist warmer in Foggy, \$89, from Mia Fratino.
- 3 The Vivienne shirt dress in Caramel Stripe Cotton, \$449, from Friends with Frank.
- 4 Human Premium Barland woven leather slides in Natural, \$99.95, from The Iconic.
- 5 Anine Bing Kat straight-leg jeans in Aqua Blue, \$335, from David Jones.
- 6 Good American denim shirt in Mid Denim, \$210.45, from Net-A-Porter.
- 7 Handwoven market basket, \$283*, from The Cook's Atelier.
- 8 Vintage silver carving set, \$460*, from The Cook's Atelier.
- 9 Bobbi gumboot in Rust, \$149.95, from Merry People.
- 10 English No.7 mortar and pestle, \$285, from The Drill Hall Emporium.
- 11 Provincial dining chair in White Light Distressed, \$730, from Maison Living.
- 12 Royal bronze steel chandelier, \$1896, from Lighting Collective.

*PRICE CONVERTED FROM EUROS. CURRENCY CONVERSION CORRECT AT TIME OF PRINT.

