

Food file: the hunt for the producer of the best steak and Easter treats

Marie-Claire Digby with this week's food news

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Marie Claire Digby

AN ITALIAN EASTER TREAT

Simnel cake is all very well, but with Easter coming early this year, it's a bit too soon for all that marzipan, again. So, for something different, you could try a Colomba, the traditional Italian Easter dove cake that resembles panettone, but with candied orange peel instead of raisins.

Del Gusto Italian imports has sourced Columba (below) made by the Loison family bakery near Venice. The dove-shaped cakes have the same light texture as panettone and are made with flour, eggs, sugar, yeast, cream and butter, along with candied orange peel, and a topping of almonds and crunchy sugar. The packaging is designed by Sonia Loison, wife of Dario the baker, and is a thing of beauty. They are on sale in Avoca, Dunnes Stores, Caviston's in Glashule and Mortons in Galway. Prices range from €7 to €25.

