



THE CORTELUME TERRACE SUPPER

ESSY GATHERING · SUMMER

An intimate summer hosting experience inspired by golden light, harbour views, slow food and stories shared around the table.

BRING CORTELUME TO YOUR TABLE

WELCOME TO THE GATHERING

A soft summer evening, made simple.

The Cortelume Terrace Supper is designed for a small table, warm evening air and food that does not need to be complicated to feel special. Use this guide as a gentle framework rather than a strict plan. Choose what fits your evening, leave what does not, and let the table become the centre of the story.

Best for: a summer dinner with friends, a small birthday supper, a holiday-at-home table, or an aperitivo night that slowly turns into dinner.

GUESTS

Made for 2 to 6 people, intimate enough for real conversation.

DURATION

Plan for 2 to 3 hours, from late afternoon into evening.

MOOD

Golden light, open windows, simple food, soft music and candlelight.

INSIDE THE GATHERING

Everything you need for a slow, beautiful table.

HOST PREPARATION TIMELINE

A simple three-step timeline for three days before, one day before and the day itself.

INVITATION TEXT

Ready-to-copy wording for WhatsApp or email.

MOOD AND TABLE GUIDE

Small styling choices for light, linen, music, scent and table details.

SUGGESTED MENU

A Cortelume-inspired menu using recipes from the summer collection.

PLAYLIST PAIRING

A soft evening playlist for open windows and late dinners.

CONVERSATION PROMPTS

Gentle prompts to make the table feel personal without becoming formal.

PRINTABLE DETAILS

A menu card, table note and small host extras to print or save.

HOST PREPARATION TIMELINE

A few gentle steps before the evening begins.

Three days before

Choose your guest list. Keep it small and intimate. Send the invitation. Decide whether the supper will be dinner, aperitivo or a long late lunch that turns into evening. Check your playlist and choose the recipes you want to serve.

One day before

Buy the ingredients. Wash linen or choose napkins. Pick your glasses, plates and serving bowls. Prepare anything that can be made ahead, such as cake, infused drink syrup or small table details. Print the menu card or table note if you are using one.

On the day

Set the table before guests arrive. Open the windows or doors. Place candles, herbs, flowers or citrus leaves on the table. Chill the drinks. Start the playlist softly. Keep the food simple and let the atmosphere do part of the work.

INVITATION TEXT

Copy, send and keep it unfussy.

Longer version:

Hi lovely,

I am hosting a small Cortelume-inspired summer supper and would love you to come. Think simple food, open windows, soft music, something chilled to drink and a table we do not need to leave quickly. No dress code, no fuss - just a slow evening together.

Date:

Time:

Place:

Bring only yourself, and maybe your appetite.

Short WhatsApp version:

Small summer supper at mine? I am making a Cortelume-inspired table with simple food, soft music and something chilled to drink. No fuss - just a slow evening together. Would love to have you there.

MOOD & TABLE GUIDE

Let the table feel generous, not staged.

Table mood

- Use a linen cloth or simple cotton runner.
- Choose warm neutral plates and clear glasses.
- Add one natural element: citrus leaves, basil, rosemary, olive branches, small flowers or lemons.
- Use candlelight even before it is fully dark.
- Serve food on the table instead of plating everything perfectly.

Small details

- Keep the music low enough for conversation.
- Open windows or doors if the weather allows.
- Let one beautiful detail be enough.
- Place a small postcard or table note near each setting.
- Do not over-style - softness is the luxury.

SUGGESTED MENU

Simple, seasonal dishes made for sharing.

APERITIVO

Tomato Butter Crostini with Whipped Ricotta

MAIN

Courgette Pasta with Toasted Breadcrumbs

DESSERT

Honeyed Fig & Almond Cake

DRINK

Peach, Thyme & Sparkling Water Cooler

Optional table extras: olives, good bread, olive oil, lemon, basil and a small bowl of summer fruit.

PLAYLIST PAIRING

Windows Open, Dinner Late

A soft evening playlist for open windows, candlelit tables, harbour air and conversations that last a little longer than planned.

Windows Open,
Dinner Late

Start the playlist before guests arrive. Let it sit quietly in the background while you set the table, light the candle and pour the first drink.

CONVERSATION PROMPTS

Gentle questions for a table that lingers.

01 *What is a summer evening you still remember?*

02 *What is something small that always makes a meal feel special?*

03 *Where would you go if you could leave for a little village tomorrow?*

04 *What is a scent, song or dish that instantly brings you back somewhere?*

05 *What is one thing you would like to do more slowly this season?*

OPTIONAL STORY PRELUDE

A tiny piece of Cortelume before the evening begins.

Before the gathering, guests can be invited to read one Cortelume Sunday Story. This should feel like a gentle prelude, not homework. The best story pairing for this gathering is The Table at Terrazza del Porto. A second option is The House Above the Piazza.

Before you come, I will send you one tiny Cortelume story to read if you feel like it - just a little prelude to the evening. No homework, just something soft to set the mood.

FINAL HOSTING NOTE

The point is not perfection.

The point of The Cortelume Terrace Supper is not to host the perfect dinner. It is to make a little space for warmth, food, conversation and a slower kind of evening. Let the glasses stay on the table. Let the candle burn low. Let the plates be passed around. Let the night gather softly.

Gather, dine and linger.

END OF GUIDE