

Stay healthy, eat healthy &



ENJOY EVERY MINUTE



1. What are your Hobbies/Passions?
Family, Food and Formula 1, I like to call them the F3 of my life.

2. What is your idea of perfect happiness?
Watching Sharang, my son, drop everything & run to me when I pick him up from school.

3. What is your success mantra?
For me, success is directly proportional to innovation & smart work.

4. Who or what is your inspiration?
My family. I look at my mother who has worked in the food industry for more than half of her life & still wakes up with the same passion every day. I look at my wife & son who want me to be successful, who never hesitate to put me first & who never ask for anything in return. That inspires me more than anything.

5. What is your most memorable moment?
I can't single out one. The day I met my wife, the day my son was born, the day I got into the MasterChef kitchen, the day I met Heston Blumenthal. They all are very memorable & I don't want to make any one more important than the other.

6. How important is it to fail before you succeed?
I think using the word "fail" carries a negative connotation. There is always something to learn from your unsuccessful attempts, so I choose to call it learning. I strongly believe taking lessons from & improving on your failed attempts is important to succeed in life.

7. What do you value most in life?
Time, it is the most important dimension of one's life. As one can't change time, it means it is very valuable.

8. Favourite movie & star?
My favourite movie is James Bond's Skyfall. Favourite movie star is none other than Madhuri Dixit.

9. Favourite food/restaurant?
My favourite type of cuisine is Sichuan Chinese. My favourite restaurants keep changing as I try new places; my current favourite is Chianti Classico in Adelaide.

10. Favourite Sport & player?
Favourite sport is Formula 1 & sportsman Michael Schumacher.

11. Favourite holiday destination?
Of the ones I have travelled to so far, it has to be Singapore. I just love the diversity of food in Singapore.

12. What do you love or admire in Australia?
I love Australia for its natural beauty, food diversity & variety of wines. Most of all I admire Australia for its people - I've met & made some amazing friends along the way.

13. What outdoor activities do you like / how do you relax?
I like to play golf, tennis & drive go-karts. My relaxation is watching television whenever I can.

14. Which talent would you most like to have?
Salesmanship, I think if I had the ability to sell anything, I would be more successful.

15. The craziest things you've ever done?
Walked from Andheri to Vile Parle (2 train stations in Mumbai) on train tracks. For those who don't know there are 8 different train lines between these two stations & local trains in Mumbai run every 3 minutes. So while walking on those tracks you have to judge which way the train is coming from. It tops my list of the stupidest things I have done in my life...but I blame it on being a teenager!

16. What is your greatest fear?
I fear one day there will be no fish in the sea due to current overfishing in the world. That will be one sad day in the history of mankind & it's only a few decades away.

17. What do you think is the secret to a good life?
Stay healthy, eat healthy & enjoy every minute of your life.

18. If your house was on fire & you could only grab 3 things what would they be?
Given my family & my cat are already outside the house, wallet, passport & birth certificate.

19. What phrase or words do you use the most?
"Absolutely Brilliant"

20. Name one achievement that you are proud of:
I am proud of the fact that I am able to follow my passion in food & so far have been successful with it.

Rishi Desai learned to cook at a young age; initially recreating the traditional everyday dishes he enjoyed eating in his hometown in India. The opportunity to work overseas broadened his culinary horizons & inspired his repertoire. As a MasterChef Australia 2013 contestant, Rishi impressed the judges with his flair, palate & considerable skill. This experience provided him with the opportunity to nurture his love of cooking & experiment with the traditional dishes of India. Ultimately, it has established his credibility and identity as a chef of inspired modern Indian cuisine.