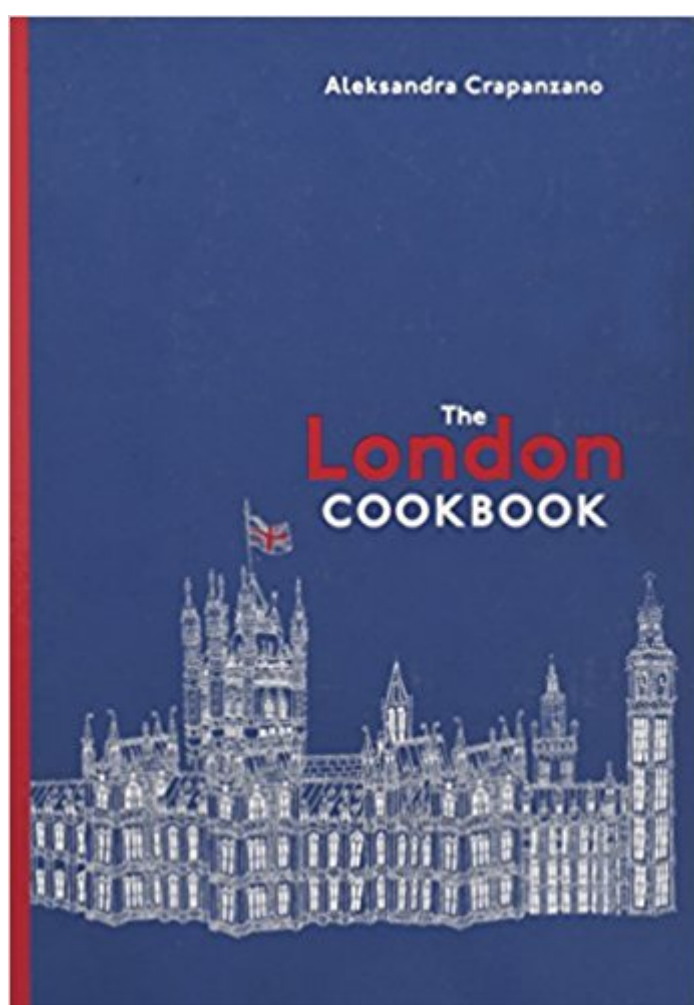


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# The London Cookbook: Recipes From The Restaurants, Cafes, And Hole-in-the-Wall Gems Of A Modern City



## Synopsis

From an award-winning food writer comes this intimate portrait of London--the global epicenter of cuisine--with 100 recipes from the city's best restaurants, dessert boutiques, tea and coffee houses, cocktail lounges, and hole-in-the-wall gems--all lovingly adapted for the home kitchen. Once known for its watery potatoes, stringy mutton, and grayed vegetables, London is now considered to be the most vibrant city on the global food map. The London Cookbook reflects the contemporary energy and culinary rebirth of this lively, hip, sophisticated, and very international city. It is a love letter to the city and an insider's guide to its most delicious haunts, as well as a highly curated and tested collection of the city's best recipes. This timeless book explores London's incredibly diverse cuisine through an eclectic mix of dishes, from The Cinnamon Club's Seared Aubergine Steaks with Sesame and Tamarind to the River Cafe's Tagliatelle with Lemon, and from Tramshed's Indian Rock Chicken Curry to Nopi's Sage and Cardamom Gin. Striking the perfect balance between armchair travel and approachable home cooking, The London Cookbook is both a resource and keepsake, a book as much for the well-travelled cook as for the dreaming novice.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Food & Wine Magazine's Best of the Year One of Eater.com's Most Anticipated Cookbooks Sweet Paul's Books I'm Loving Right Now Vogue Gift Guide Cooking Light Holiday Gift Guide "I can't imagine anyone as perfect as Aleksandra for the task of capturing the amazing spirit (and surprises) of the new gastronomic London. A celebrated food writer in the U.S., she also happens to know our

city like the back of her hand, writes beautifully, and has the wit and imagination needed to uncover the city's best kept culinary secrets, its variety, and its flavors. She has great taste--in every sense of the word. It doesn't hurt that she's a great cook, too. This is the moment for her book, and I guarantee it will be the one everybody wants to own." —Ruth Rogers, owner of The River Café

"Thank you, Aleksandra, for The London Cookbook. I'm ashamed to admit I once avoided London as a dining destination at all costs - but I am equally proud to acknowledge that it has become my single favorite culinary destination, in no small part due to its remarkable community of hospitality professionals, many of whom are featured in this beautiful book. This winning collection of recipes will keep me yearning - and satisfied -between my trips to London!" —Danny Meyer, Union Square Hospitality Group, New York

When I say this cookbook does justice to one of the world's most delicious cities, that's no small feat. Aleksandra Crapanzano deftly captures the pulse and vitality of London's new food landscape while honoring its culinary architects.

—Dan Barber, co-owner and executive chef of Blue Hill and Blue Hill at Stone Barns, and author of The Third Plate

Aleksandra Crapanzano takes you by the hand, leading you on a whirlwind tour of one of the world's great food cities. Irresistible portraits of the fascinating people who are changing the way we eat. And recipes that make you want to run right into the kitchen.

—Ruth Reichl, author of Delicious, and former editor in chief of Gourmet magazine

"London's favourite restaurants offering their favourite recipes: what a delicious idea! This is as much about the vibrancy of eating in London as it is a working cookbook. Great stuff!" —Yotam Ottolenghi

"Aleksandra Crapanzano's celebration of the new, vibrant, immensely creative, joyful, London restaurant world, of the best chefs behind it and their glorious dishes, captures so well the spirit and the flavors that have made the city a real capital of food."

—Claudia Roden

"Food writers and journalists increasingly agree that British food has shed its bad reputation, and Americans are clamoring for cookbooks from London eateries such as Ottolenghi and the River Café. In this superbly written and photographed cookbook, award-winning food writer Crapanzano surveys significant shifts in London cuisine, noting the influence of chefs such as Fergus Henderson and Ruth Rogers. Readers need not have traveled to London to appreciate recipes such as Korean steak and shoestring fries, farro and porcini soup, scallops with corn puree and chile oil, and garam masala Christmas pudding with nutmeg custard. These and other dishes have been sourced from many popular restaurants and adapted for home kitchens.

VERDICT Crapanzano perfectly captures all that's exciting about the people, places, and foods that make up

London's modern culinary scene. After reading this cookbook, home cooks may find themselves planning a London vacation."- Library Journal STARRED Review

Crapanzano's book takes readers on a journey through the current London restaurant scene. The book is filled with impressive and tempting recipes, along with engaging stories of the chefs behind the restaurants. Crapanzano, a food journalist and winner of the James Beard Foundation's MFK Fisher Award for distinguished writing, engages the reader with wit and warmth. She starts her delightful book with an intoxicating history of the modern London restaurant scene • a useful reminder that the capital city has been an exciting place to eat for more years than naysayers might admit. Flavors from all over the world • Mexico, India, Italy, Japan • have made themselves at home in London and are reflected in the broad range of recipes that fill the book. Travelers to London would do well to choose this cookbook as a guidebook for touring the city's restaurants. For those resigned to armchair travel, don't despair: head for the kitchen. This book offers many unexpected and innovative recipes, and the directions and procedures have been modified to suit the American home kitchen."- PUBLISHERS WEEKLY

"The tired old stereotype of bad British food is being dispelled. The London Cookbook shows how, with recipes that are sophisticated yet cook-friendly from the city's best chefs and restaurants."- COOKING LIGHT

"Food writer Aleksandra Crapanzano, recipient of the James Beard Foundation's MFK Award for Distinguished Writing, sure has been around the block • her words have appeared in the likes of the Wall Street Journal, Food & Wine, Marie Claire, and Travel & Leisure. Her latest venture has taken her to Ten Speed Press, where she's captured what she calls the "soul" of one of the most diverse food landscapes in the world • London • for The London Cookbook. More than 100 recipes are laid out in the book, featuring renowned restaurants ranging from corner spots to fine dining establishments. Crapanzano promises to deliver an experience for experts of London's gastronomic scene as well as travelers new to the city."- EATER

NATIONAL "Like the best city-oriented cookbooks, The London Cookbook captures the culinary topography of the British capital in a carefully curated collection of recipes culled from the city's best chefs. Each recipe is preluded by a description about the restaurant and the chef responsible for the creation. After being relegated to the lowest rungs of the world dining scene for generations, today's British culinary traditions • as interpreted by London's most talented chefs • demonstrate a whole new world view: one that embraces the many facets of the city's vast diversity."- DEPARTURES

In this superbly written and photographed cookbook, award-winning food writer Crapanzano perfectly captures all

that's exciting about the people, places, and foods that comprise London's modern culinary scene. Home cooks may soon find themselves planning a London vacation."- LIBRARY JOURNAL BEST COOKBOOKS OF 2016

ALEKSANDRA CRAPANZANO is the recipient of the James Beard Foundation M.F.K. Fisher Award for distinguished writing, and her work has appeared in several anthologies including Best Food Writing 2013. She writes the "A Little Something Sweet" dessert column for the Wall Street Journal and frequently writes their lengthy "Mega Meal" page. She has written about food for the New York Times Magazine, Gourmet, Food & Wine, Saveur, and Travel & Leisure. Now in New York, Crapanzano spent much of her childhood living in London, and continues to visit many times a year.

Refreshing take on the London food scene and thoroughly entertaining to read. Can't wait to try the recipes!

What a great cookbook. Lots of fantastic recipes and info on London restaurants. The quality of the book itself is 1st class. It shall hold a special place on my cookbook book shelf.

Really an all around great book. From starters to entrees to desert you can create great innovative menus.

The information in this book will come in handy for my next trip to London.

Super cookbook, great pictures !

yes

I have a groaning shelf of cookbooks that spans a wall in my kitchen. I refer to them all frequently, but until I bought The London Cookbook, I had never curled up on the couch and read one cover to cover. This is far more than a compendium of recipes – The London Cookbook is a chronicle of a historic city's changing relationship to food, and a loving profile of the chefs who led its transformation. Crapanzano focuses on a baker's dozen of innovative restaurants, introducing each recipe with insight into the chef who created it. By the time you read from Light Fare and Soups all the way to the TWO chapters on dessert (the author is a

woman after my own heart) you come to know these chefs as characters in a delicious story, whose personalities come to life as flavorfully as the recipes on the page. Speaking of which, the recipes are inspiring and impressive, but simple enough for a home cook like me to create. And I don't think I've ever read a cookbook with directions as straightforward and enjoyable to read. It's gorgeously produced, so it is perfect for holiday gift-giving. Buy this book, but be forewarned: you may pick it up to make one of its 100 delicious dishes, only to find yourself so caught up in reading it that you end up having cereal for dinner.

Stop! Erase what you've thought of English cuisine. Aleksandra Crapanzano has written a wonderful book filled with more than 100 unique recipes from London's best restaurants, cafes, and "hole-in-the-wall gems." That she is an award-winning food writer is obvious after reading this book. Cheerful banter abounds. A trip to Ottolenghi's restaurant for tahini cookies ends up with the recipe instead. Unlike most cookbooks featuring restaurant recipes, the ones here are easily made at home and are not fussy. What a joy! The recipes range from lighter fare to cocktails. A brief history of British food is included. Elizabeth David is discussed as well as Crapanzano's "The London Culinary Tree." One main branch features Fergus Henderson's classic St. John's restaurant and the chefs it spawned. The other main branch begins with Ruth Roger's River Cafe, Crapanzano's absolute favorite. This would be a fun book to use as a London's restaurant guide. The useful brief section on ingredients includes her "ten commandments." One is to use cooking wine good enough to drink. I was also pleased to see her provide substitutions such as powdered gelatin for leaves of sheet gelatin in the Orange Blossom and Milk Pudding recipe. I made the TAHINI COOKIES. Why was Crapanzano looking forward to getting them? They are like peanut butter cookies only made with tahini instead: interesting and tasty. I made the BAKEWELL TART from Rules because Lady Mary of Downton Abby called it her favorite London restaurant. (!) Can you imagine that this restaurant opened the same year Napoleon began his campaign in Egypt? The tart was quite nice and definitely needed the creme fraiche to cut the sweet and add moisture. Pork belly! It seems everywhere I turn these days, there is a recipe using pork belly, so I made KAKUNI, Japanese braised pork belly using the Koya Bar restaurant's recipe for braising liquid. The dish was tender and quite flavorfull. We enjoyed it with mashed potatoes. This user-friendly book has many interesting recipes which beg trying. More pictures, about half of the recipes are without, would be appreciated. I highly recommend this book. Review Copy Gratis Ten Speed Press via Blogging for Books.

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