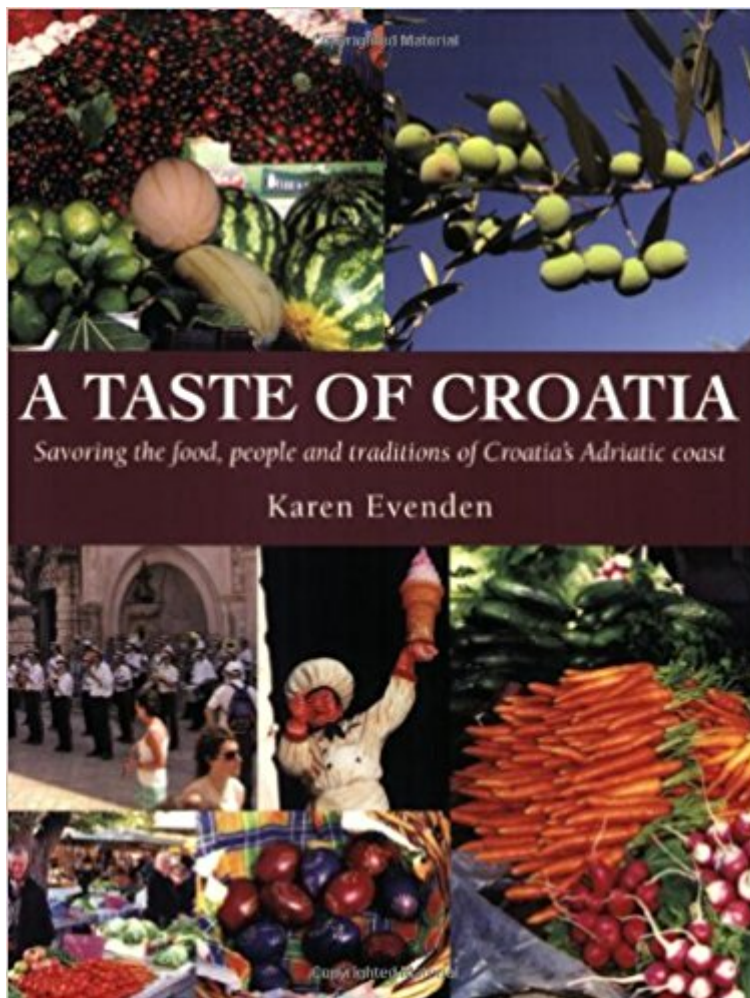


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A Taste Of Croatia



Synopsis

A Taste of Croatia...savoring the food, people and traditions of Croatia's Adriatic coast...is both a user-friendly cookbook and an intriguing travel memoir dedicated to the land that the New York Times recently dubbed the "New Riviera." Packed with straight-forward recipes, photos, food facts and anecdotes, the author has created a publication that goes beyond the bounds of what makes a great cookbook...she delivers the spirit of the culture, the country and the cuisine and then ties it all together with a collection of recipes that will make you want to run to your kitchen and start cooking. Today, throughout America, we are hearing more and more about the benefits of eating fresh, seasonal, local foods that are grown and produced using sustainable methods. However, for today's cooks, it can be difficult to know exactly how to incorporate these concepts into our busy lives without it being too complicated, time consuming or expensive. Toss in a dash of ethnicity and even the most competent home cook can become discouraged. Fear not: A Taste of Croatia provides a straightforward and easy way to celebrate a culture whose dishes can be created anywhere fresh ingredients can be found...all the while capturing you with an inspiring story that will allow you to set out on your own adventure...without leaving your favorite chair. A Taste of Croatia is based on the author and her husband's three-year odyssey sailing the Adriatic coast and living aboard their 50-foot sailboat. It is the story of the lands they explored, the people they met, the markets they visited and the foods they enjoyed. Presented as a well organized, easy-to-use cookbook, most of the recipes have been savored by generations of Croatians and all of the recipes have been adapted for use in American kitchens. It is the author's hope to provide each reader with his or her own enriching, delicious, inspiring and thought-provoking "taste of Croatia."

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

A fearless foodie, a fair-weather sailor and a tireless traveler, A Taste of Croatia author, Karen Evenden has been fascinated with food, its history and preparation since childhood. At the age of 17, her curiosity for food was rewarded with a Betty Crocker scholarship to study Home Economics at Cornell University. Since then she has pursued a variety of vocations and avocations in a number of hometowns across America and abroad. Underlying each phase of her experience-filled life, food and travel have remained primary passions. In 1990 her long-term interest in food became her career. She opened The Galley Slave, a cooking school and kitchen store in Seattle, WA. For more than six years, she developed and presented hundreds of cooking classes, followed the trends in American dining preferences and shared the pleasures of her customer's expanded culinary skill and adventures. But then serious competition developed when Sur la Table opened nearby. Change was inevitable. However, change often creates new opportunities and within 18 months, she was off sailing with her newly retired husband in the sunny Mediterranean. From the fall of 1997 to the beginning of summer 2000, they explored France, Italy, Greece and Turkey. Then on the 1st day of summer in 2000, they arrived in Dubrovnik. When they checked into Croatia, they did not know if they would stay a day, a week or a month. Never did they consider that their visit would last for more than three years. It did not take long for Croatia to seduce them. The Croatian cruising lifestyle was magic...a seemingly endless choice of protected coves, charming medieval villages, fascinating farmer s markets, a rich and potent history and a generous and welcoming people. However, even good things come to an end. After seven years of cruising, the yearning for a land-based community encouraged Karen and Bill to search for a home in sun-drenched southern California. Once again, good fortune was theirs...they found a small ranch in California s beautiful and productive Ojai Valley. Today, the boat is sold and they are no longer retired. Karen and Bill are farmers and artisanal entrepreneurs...nurturing their land to produce Mediterranean inspired crops: walnuts, Ojai Pixie tangerines, lavender and olives. Bill works the land and Karen receives endless pleasure in their rural lifestyle; helping to grow the crops, refine the products, develop recipes and write about food.

Some nice text on sailing along the Croatian coast, but, a lot of the recipes are the author's fanciful adaptations of the region's cookery. For example, in her recipe for 'bakalar', she substitutes canned

tuna for the dried cod. It's just not the same dish.

While it is a well written travelogue, it leaves something to be desired as a Croatian cookbok. It provides an approximation of some Croatian recipes. It makes too many substitutions of ingrediants and leaves out some classic recipes such as cevapcici. It did not meet my expectations for a cookbook.

great product

I was very pleased to purchase this book. I have used most of the recipes and have had pleasant outcomes. It is always good to have a recipe turn out well. It has a great bread recipe too. The only thing I did not like is that it did not have pictures of the finished product.

excellent recipes so far!

What a fabulous cookbook! I have spent most of July and August working my way through the lighter recipes and I've loved everything that I've made, even the sauerkraut salad! My fathers family is from Italy and some of the recipes seemed vaguely familiar but definitely had a different twist. The grilled squid turned out great/tasty/succulent and was one of my favorites. Now that autumn is almost here in New England and my vegetable garden is no longer producing (weep...) I am looking forward to the heartier dishes. Additionally, I enjoyed the travel log and cultural notes provided. It was nice to learn about groups such as DEÃ A that are committed to serving the needs of women while simultaneously fostering an educational and social environment in which all can learn and develop through experiences rich in culture and community.

I loved the pictures of Croatia but feel the author talked about herself and her boating companions far more than I cared to know about. The recipes were pretty generalized- I have seen them in other cookbooks- I'm Croation! This book just didn't do it for me.

Not happy with book,book is black and white inside not in colour.

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