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From A Polish Country House Kitchen: 90 Recipes For The Ultimate Comfort Food



Synopsis

With more than 150 splendid photographs, headnotes that illuminate Poland's vibrant food culture, and more than 90 recipes for classic and contemporary Polish food, this unique and fascinating cookbook brings an ignored cuisine to light. Pulitzer Prize-winner Anne Applebaum has lived in Poland since before the fall of communism, and this cookbook is nourished by her engagement with the culture and food of her adopted country. It offers a tantalizing look into the turbulent history of this beautiful region. In a Polish Country House Kitchen celebrates long-distance friendships with a love of food at the core, bringing the good, sustaining foods of Anne's Polish country home into kitchens the world over.

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Customer Reviews

This is a foodie book. Take common, rustic fare and dress it up in fancy herbs and methods and, voila! you have upscale dishes that bear but passing resemblance to every day cooking. I am not an expert but I did marry into a Polish American family of excellent cooks and have learned to love and appreciate Polish cuisine. In addition, as a native Detroiter, we have many wonderful Polish restaurants from which to chose. There are many good recipes in this book and it certainly isn't a

waste of money but there is this judgmental undertone that is annoying. What's wrong with sweet, creamy cole slaw? You might not like it but don't turn your nose up at it. Pierogi and golabki may be labor intensive dishes but they are essentially simple fare that feeds family. They don't need to be dressed up too finely. If you are an advanced cook, this book might help unleash your inner Polish chef artistry but if you try to put this on the table at the Otulokowski or Czyzak family reunion it will not fly. A better, basic cook book is the Adventures in Cooking series Polish Cookbook where you will get unadorned recipes without the attitude.

Being second generation Polish on both sides I was really looking forward to reading this book, but for me it was missing the earthy, peasant dishes that I so enjoyed having at my grandmother's house. She often explained that the food was so simple, because they cooked with what was available and often that was very little.

Originally found this book at the library and was so impressed with the combination of historical information, recipes and pictures that I purchased it as a gift for my Mom. The book is hardback and beautifully presented. Makes a wonderful gift for cooks with an interest in Polish cuisine.

This is a lovely presentation of Polish cooking and a surprise because one associates Anne Applebaum with such serious subjects as the Gulag and the Iron Curtain. The illustrations are beautiful, the recipes authentic yet easy to produce in an American kitchen. There is an excellent introduction and stories accompany many of the recipes providing the reader with interesting insights into a little known culinary tradition.

Two local Washington DC political writers and home cooks, with ties to Poland and Eastern Europe, put together ninety recipes of classic Polish cuisine for the modern kitchen. All the usual suspects have been rounded up: lots of cabbage, beets, veggie soups and salads; a nice collection of braised and potted chicken, pork, wild boar and venison dishes; an enticing chapter on Pierogi (Polish dumplings) and fillers; and desserts including five infused vodka recipes. All well edited with great photos on fine paper. It's pretty good! It might even make the James Beard Foundation contender list for regional cookbook award.

This is a fantastic cookbook if you are of Polish heritage and born in America. My grandmother used most of these recipes and I am not learning how to use them. Thank you for the speedy shipment.

My pigs in blankets turned out just perfect as I use to over cook them. Five star rating. The recipe I used was true to its exactness to each detail and cooking time as indicated in the book.

I grew up with a Polish "babcia" and these recipes resemble hers closely. There is a lot in this book, however, that she did not cook, so I have room to branch out. I bought a copy for a Polish friend who is living in Japan and he was thrilled; he immediately wanted to try the "twice-cooked mushroomssss" (sic) - I personally plan to soothe my upcoming jet lag by making a big batch of pierogi for Christmas. Highly recommended; the cabbage recipes are especially wonderful

This book is well made, has classic recipes that are easily understood with ingredients that are not too hard to come by. Alternative ingredients are given for hard to find things (like wild boar or farm cheese). Measurements are given in both imperial and metric. Pictures of the food are very enticing and pictures of the surrounding Polish country side make me want to go back. I will treasure this cookbook.

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