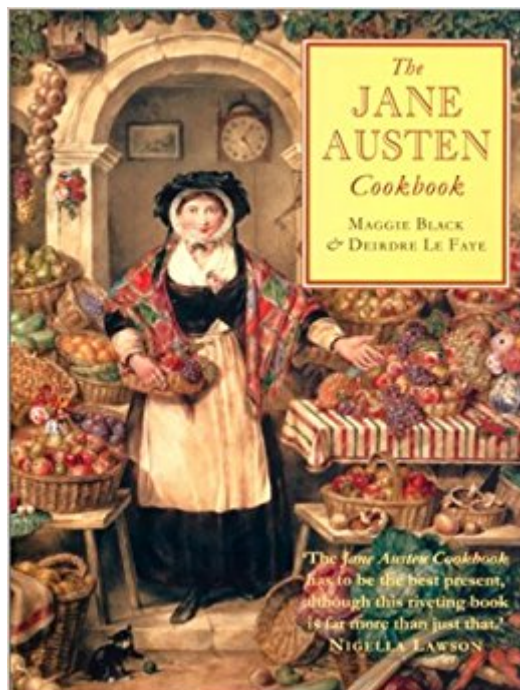


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The Jane Austen Cookbook



Synopsis

Jane Austen wrote her novels in the midst of a large and sociable family. Brothers and sisters, nieces and nephews, friends and acquaintances were always coming and going, which offered numerous occasions for convivial eating and drinking. One of Jane's dearest friends, Martha Lloyd, lived with the family for many years and recorded in her "Household Book" over 100 recipes enjoyed by the Austens. A selection of this family fare, now thoroughly tested and modernized for today's cooks, is recreated here, together with some of the more sophisticated dishes which Jane and her characters would have enjoyed at balls, picnics, and supper parties. A fascinating introduction describes Jane's own interest in food, drawing upon both the novels and her letters, and explains the social conventions of shopping, eating, and entertaining in late Georgian and Regency England. The book is illustrated throughout with delightful contemporary line drawings, prints, and watercolours. Authentic recipes, modernized for today's cooks, include: Buttered Prawns Wine-Roasted Gammon and Pigeon Pie Broil Eggs White Soup and Salmagundy Martha's Almond Cheesecakes

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Customer Reviews

When a food historian and an Austenian scholar collaborate, you get a cookbook that is both intelligent and charming. Georgian and Regency recipes out of context would be cute but not necessarily a chef's first choice. Set against a backdrop of the era's social and domestic history, however, the cuisine finds its place. Black-and-white photos and drawings extend the descriptions.

The first half is full of facts about and analyses of Austen's friends, novels, and letters; the second half has the recipes, most of which have been adapted to the modern kitchen, e.g., macaroni, jugged steaks with potatoes. It was more difficult to adapt the pigeon pie! Black and Le Faye's work offers interesting tidbits about 19th-century English social life and customs, and if anyone wants to know what "salmagundy" is, the answer lies here. Recommended for food history collections. Wendy Miller, Lexington P.L., Ky. Copyright 1995 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to the Hardcover edition.

“The Jane Austen Cookbook has to be the best present, although this riveting book is far more than just that.” Nigella Lawson

The Jane Austen Cookbook offers some interesting preliminary pages with descriptions of meals, menus and manners of the era. After that it does an adequate job of giving the recipes for specific dishes along with the modern equivalents for anyone who might want to tackle a late 18th or early 19th century recipe. It should be of interest to collectors of old cook books or fans of Jane Austen or the Regency period. In my opinion it is a bit short on information for the price; however I am glad I bought it.

WOW. This cookbook is so much more than a cutesie tribute to Austen and her works. The author, a culinary historian, thoroughly outlines the eating habits and customs of the day and provides recipes in the language of the era. So if you're looking for something both academic and entertaining, this is the perfect book. It's NOT just a quickly produced theme-based cookbook; it's the real deal!

the recipes (tested and upgraded for current standards) plus the literary contexts and flavors, provided a new treasure for a discerning hostess (and maybe moved me in the direction of being a quality / discerning guest).

Gave this as a gift, so I really cannot judge. The book looked very interesting, with historical references as well as recipes.

This cookbook is charming. It has useful recipes in it, along with modern-day interpretations of the recipes, and interesting stories about food. It even explains how people preserved and bought food in Jane Austen's day. That is quite interesting, I love to learn more about lifestyles in different

historical eras. It's not only a cookbook, it's a history book. It's worth it, you won't be disappointed!

Everything was great!!!

Love this book! I was given a copy as a gift, and just knew that a friend of mine would love it too! (Given as a shower gift along with a set of mixing bowls, etc.) As far as a Cookbook, it is not just a book of recipes, I found myself really learning a great deal- both procedural and anecdotally. Highly recommend for Janeites, Regency enthusiasts, or anyone who enjoys a unique addition to their library! Also- I did a bit of shopping around for this book. Had BY FAR the lowest price. Just so you know!

Very well written. It gives a good overview of the culture in which Jane Austen lived. How food was many times the defining mark of your status in the British aristocracy. Given the fact of little refrigeration in this era of time it is a miracle that more folks did not die of food poisoning! These folks enjoyed many different varieties of fruits and vegetables as well as meats. Very nostalgic.

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