

The Bacon Cookbook: More than 150 Recipes from Aroud the World for Everyone's Favorite Food

By James Villas

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Bacon. It’s crispy, salty, smoky, sweet . . . and totally irresistible. Renowned food writer James Villas offers 168 intriguing ways to savor the flavor of everyone’s favorite meat, ranging across America and around the globe. You’ll find familiar favorites like Spaghetti alla Carbonara and Cobb Salad as well as more exotic but equally delectable fare, such as California Hangtown Fry and Portuguese Egg and Bacon pudding. Illustrated with beautiful color photographs throughout and featuring sources for today’s best artisanal and international bacon, *The Bacon Cookbook* is your guide to a world of bacon possibilities and pleasures.

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The Bacon Cookbook: More than 150 Recipes from Aroud the World for Everyone's Favorite Food By James Villas Bibliography

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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly
In this exuberant parade of pork fat, there is no doubting the flap copy when it states that Villas, former food editor for *Town & Country*, has been beguiled by bacon since he was a boy. However, Villas's statement in his preface that staunch vegetarians and non-pork-eating religious traditionalists are haunted instinctively by the sensuous, irresistible enticement is about as nutty as his Bacon-Almond Cheese Spread (made with cottage cheese and chives). Nonetheless, there's plenty good to be had in these pages. An introductory chapter explains the difference between Salt Pork and Pancetta, Paprikaspeck and Bauchspeck, and provides a thorough list of mail-order sources. Breakfast choices range from a nifty ole Bacon Scrapple to a rich French Cheese and Bacon soufflé. There's a BLT, of course, but most of his other sandwiches go to extremes with ingredients like Jamaican smoked fish. For those who sometimes eat vegetables, there is Lima Bean and Bacon Casserole, and several amalgams mix a menagerie of meats, as in the Spanish Chicken, Bacon, Meatball and Chickpea Stew. Of the six dessert recipes, bacon-wrapped figs work, but Bacon and Peanut Butter Chocolate Truffles would be hard-pressed to create irresistible enticement in even the heartiest of carnivores. *(Oct.)*
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Review

With his typical evocative prose, Villas, author of a dozen other cookbooks (including *The Glory of Southern Cooking*), asks, "Who, under any circumstances, is not rendered almost helpless by the tantalizing sound of bacon sizzling slowly in a skillet, by the taunting backwoods aroma that permeates the air...?" He opens with a guide to "the international world of bacon" (including pancetta, lard fumé, and other relatives), which is followed by mouthwatering recipes for all courses of a meal, from Lacquered Japanese Bacon to Portuguese Egg and Bacon Pudding. There are, in fact, several other cookbooks devoted to bacon, including Sara Perry's Everything Tastes Better with Bacon, but with its irresistible recipes and wealth of information and lore, Villas's new title is recommended for most collections. (*Library Journal*, October 15, 2007)

“there is nothing standard about Villas book…shows the versatility of bacon…Vegetarians beware; these dishes could prove too tempting.” (Independent, September 13, 2008)

From the Inside Flap
Crispy, salty, smoky, sweet—who can resist the allure of bacon? Certainly not food writer extraordinaire James Villas, who's been beguiled by bacon since he was a boy. Now, in this paean to pork bellies, Villas offers 168 ways to savor the flavor of bacon—and proves once and for all that bacon makes every meal better.

Ranging across America and around the globe, Villas gives you scores of intriguing and delicious ways to enjoy bacon that will take you well beyond familiar favorites such as Cobb salad, quiche Lorraine, and spaghetti alla carbonara (though you'll find delectable versions of all of these dishes in the book). You can sample enticing American regional specialties like California Hangtown Fry and Iowa Bacon and Onion Casserole Bread, or feast on a wide range of toothsome international dishes, including Swiss Potato and Bacon Cake, Irish Hot Pot, Philippine Adobo, Chinese Lion's Head, Equadorian Pumpkin Soup, and

Portuguese Egg and Bacon Pudding. With recipes for appetizers, breakfasts, soups, salads, sandwiches, casseroles, stews, main courses, vegetables, pasta and rice, and even desserts, you'll discover just how versatile—and forever satisfying—bacon can be.

In recent years, the variety and quality of most supermarket bacon have improved immensely, and many premium American artisanal bacons, as well as delicious fo-reign ones, are now available at finer out-lets and online. Villas provides a complete taxonomy of today's bacon, explaining varieties such as French ventrèche and German Speck and explicating the differences between American, Canadian, Irish, and Chinese lop yuk bacon. Best of all, he offers a complete list of sources to help you discover this world of bacon delights.

If health concerns sometimes make you feel guilty about loving bacon, Villas urges you to relax. Yes, it's high in sodium and fat, but if eaten in moderation or used as a flavoring agent, as it is in many recipes in the book, bacon is a guilt-free indulgence. Illustrated with more than forty sizzling color photographs and featuring Villas's inimitable recipe notes and incisive cooking tips, *The Bacon Cookbook* will be an indispensable kitchen companion as you explore bacon's many possibilities and pleasures.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Kevin House:

Reading a book for being new life style in this yr; every people loves to examine a book. When you learn a book you can get a lot of benefit. When you read guides, you can improve your knowledge, since book has a lot of information in it. The information that you will get depend on what sorts of book that you have read. If you wish to get information about your analysis, you can read education books, but if you act like you want to entertain yourself look for a fiction books, these kinds of us novel, comics, as well as soon. The The Bacon Cookbook: More than 150 Recipes from Aroud the World for Everyone's Favorite Food provide you with a new experience in reading a book.

Clyde Welch:

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