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The Forest Feast: Simple Vegetarian Recipes From My Cabin In The Woods



Synopsis

Erin Gleeson made her dream a reality when she left New York City and moved into a tiny cabin in a California forest in order to be closer to nature. The natural beauty of her surroundings and the abundance of local produce serve as the inspiration for *The Forest Feast*, based on her popular blog. Most of the book's 100 wholly vegetarian recipes call for only three or four ingredients and require very few steps, resulting in dishes that are fresh, wholesome, delicious, and stunning. Among the delightful recipes are eggplant tacos with brie and cilantro, rosemary shortbread, and blackberry negroni. Vibrant photographs, complemented by Erin's own fanciful watercolor illustrations and hand lettering, showcase the rustic simplicity of the dishes. Part cookbook, part art book, *The Forest Feast* will be as comfortable in the kitchen as on the coffee table. Also available from Erin Gleeson: *The Forest Feast Gatherings* and *The Forest Feast for Kids*.

Book Information

Hardcover: 240 pages

Publisher: Harry N. Abrams (April 15, 2014)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1617690813

ISBN-13: 978-1617690815

Product Dimensions: 8.5 x 1 x 11.1 inches

Shipping Weight: 2.8 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars 375 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #8,331 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #17 in Books > Cookbooks, Food & Wine > Special Diet > Vegetarian & Vegan > Non-Vegan Vegetarian #19 in Books > Cookbooks, Food & Wine > Entertaining & Holidays > Seasonal #26 in Books > Cookbooks, Food & Wine > Cooking by Ingredient > Vegetables

Customer Reviews

“As soon as I opened *The Forest Feast* and saw the pure creativity and simplicity of the recipes, I fell in love. I'm totally charmed by this book.” (Epicurious) “The dishes in this cookbook really fall into that sweet spot of being easy and healthy for a weeknight dinner yet pretty enough to serve while entertaining.” (Apartment Therapy's The Kitchn)

Photographer and artist Erin Gleeson lives in an idyllic cabin near San Francisco, California, where she paints beautiful watercolors, cooks from her CSA box, and writes her beloved food blog, *The*

Forest Feast, and a weekly 'Delish Dish' column for Better Homes and Gardens. She has garnered attention from Design*Sponge, Food 52, Bon Appétit, and Saveur.

This book is a fantastic celebration of produce. The recipes are minimalistic, perfect for when you feel like a breezy time in the kitchen. Beautiful, colorful dishes with the ingredients and instructions set right over the photographs in a whimsical font like you see on the cover. The design aesthetics are phenomenal. The ingredients are all readily available at the average grocer. Totally recommend!

Pictured below:

- 1) Apricot Bites p 34. Delicious, simple, pretty. And just moments to pull together.
- 2) Orange Avocado Salad p 106. The contrast between the flavors of the sweet citrus and creamy avocado, along with the contrast in colors, is fantastic.
- 3) Nectarine Tomato Salad p 108. The sweetness of the nectarines, the earthiness of the tomatoes, and the sharpness of the onion are perfectly punctuated by the feta, pecans, mint, and basil.
- 4) Polenta Portobellos p 176. Garlicky roasted portobellos with polenta with creamy goat cheese (I used garlic herb goat cheese because that's what I had in the fridge), and topped with caramelized brussels sprouts and onions. Oh heck yes! This one's my favorite so far. Twenty minutes to total deliciousness.
- 5) Watermelon Salad p 110. Terribly refreshing, flavorful, and summery.
- 6) Curried Crispy Carrots p 138. Fun, tasty side that takes just a second to pull together, and hits the oven while you get the rest of dinner ready.
- 7) Peanut Butter Coconut Balls p 204. Delicious 5 minute breakfast.
- 8) Peanut Butter Avocado Shake p 228. Quick, healthy breakfast. The avocado is camouflaged by the sweetness of the banana, imparting only its creaminess. This hit the spot after my run.
- 9) Baked Apple Rings p 142. Great flavor. The recipe has you roast the raisins with the apples and onions. They were overcooked at that point, so I won't roast those next time. I just tossed fresh raisins on at the end.
- 10) Kale Caesar with Polenta Croutons p 90. Lovely salad. My polenta didn't crisp up. I think I'll cube those first and lay them on paper towel to remove any excess moisture while I prep the rest next time.
- 11) Butternut Caprese p 94. Interesting combination of roasted butternut squash, tomatoes, smoked mozzarella, avocado, basil, and balsamic vinaigrette. Fragrant and filling.

Some others I have flagged to try:

- Beer-Battered Artichoke Hearts p 18 *
- Asparagus Tart p 22 *
- Honey-Pepper Fresh Figs p 32 *
- Polka-Dot Focaccia p 40 *
- Gorgonzola Grapes p 42 *
- Cucumber Spritzer p 60 *
- Blueberry Sparkler p 68 *
- Orange Cabbage Salad p 99 *
- Eggplant Salad p 102 *
- Lentil Salad p 104 *
- Persimmon Salad p 112 *
- Green Salad p 118 *
- Yellow Salad p 120 *
- Red Salad p 122 *
- Rosemary Skewers p 132 *
- Cauliflower Cheese Steak

Ã¢ÂÂ p 148 * Citrus Beet Stack Ã¢ÂÂ p 152 * Baked Kale Egg Cups Ã¢ÂÂ p 162 * Lentil and Butternut Lettuce Cups Ã¢ÂÂ p 168 * Purple Mashed Potatoes Ã¢ÂÂ p 172 * Butternut Pear Soup Ã¢ÂÂ p 188 * Melon Cake Ã¢ÂÂ p 208

I rarely, if ever, post reviews for books. And I rarely, if ever, buy vegetarian cookbooks anymore. That being said, when I saw previews of this book, I was truly blown away. I couldn't stop thinking about this book. The colors, the photography, the care and thought put into this... This cookbook is a BEAUTIFUL work of art. If you're on the fence about this book, take a look at the sample pictures. Mind blown? YES. You can sit next to me, equally dazed. :) The recipes are simple and straight-forward - great for new cooks and those who don't want to spend hours toiling away in the kitchen. I literally do not have another cookbook like this, and I am so glad that I bought this during the first print! It's a gorgeous addition to my library and one that I'm proud to keep on the coffee table.

I cook because I'm the only cook in the house, but I also consider it my hobby. So imagine how excited and delighted I was to get THIS book in the mail. It's just gorgeous. Coffee table book gorgeous. Get it for the serious booklover/cook in your life, but recognize that there aren't any earth shattering recipes in the book. It is what it says, "Simple Vegetarian Recipes", although her salad dressings look divine, as do her desserts. Some of the recipes are pretty basic, and I had to chuckle over things like "Beer float" (not root beer..beer)...or strawberries simply dipped in yogurt and brown sugar...very, very basic. Beautiful...but basic. It's an original book, she's obviously a talented artist/photographer who is passionate about fresh fruits and veggies...the way the recipes are explained is very unique, very linear. It's almost the way you'd explain a recipe to a friend: "Roast about 25 potatoes and 10 peeled garlic cloves at 425 degrees." I like it. It's pretty. It's different. And I'm already ordering a few more for Christmas gifts.

I sat down to flag a few recipes I wanted to try and when I got to the end of the book, I realized that I had flagged almost half the book! I have since made a number of these flagged recipes and not one has disappointed. A BEAUTIFUL book full of food you want to eat, not just beautifully photographed, fiddly recipes. I have over 40 vegetarian cookbooks so I definitely don't need another one, yet I am SO glad I succumbed to the allure of this one.

I have a lot of cooking experience and am a bit of a foodie, so cookbooks have to be good for me to

actually purchase. There's no shortage of online recipes, so it has to be nice to look at as well. This is one of my favorite cookbooks. My kids even love looking at it (anxiously awaiting the kids version). I've made most everything in it and am never disappointed. It's sturdy and beautiful and the food is amazing. Best book purchase all year!

This is the best looking and easiest cookbook I own. I love the format of 1 recipe per page with a photo on the opposite page. I also love that each recipe uses only a few ingredients and the directions are simple. Don't let vegetarian in the title discourage you; anyone would love these recipes!

This is the cookbook that I have been waiting for. It is simple, yet healthy, and easy to follow. I hate cookbooks with recipes that have over 10 ingredients. I work full time and while I enjoy cooking and eating, I don't want to use all of my spare time trying to plan meals and cook for two. This cookbook takes care of everything. A lot of the ingredients are familiar and are used continuously throughout the book so you can make several different recipes with just a few ingredients. I'm also not the kind of person that measures everything out, and I use a lot of Erin's recipes as more of a "guideline" and slap some things together, and they seem to turn out well. I really hope that Erin Gleeson decides to write a sequel - let's make that 5 sequels - because I can't get enough!!

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