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The Farmette Cookbook: Recipes And Adventures From My Life On An Irish Farm



Synopsis

American city girl marries Irish dairy farmer; cooking, growing, foraging, fishing, preserving, and baking ensue: 150 delightful classic Irish recipes updated for the modern home cook. The Farmette Cookbook documents Imen McDonnell's extraordinary Irish country cooking journey, which began the moment she fell in love with an Irish farmer and moved across the Atlantic to County Limerick. This book's collection of 150 recipes and colorful stories chronicles nearly a decade-long adventure of learning to feed a family (and several hungry farmers) while adjusting to her new home (and nursing a bit of homesickness). Along the way she teaches us foundational kitchen skills and time-honored Irish traditions, sharing wisdom from her mother-in-law and other doyennes of Irish cooking. We learn the ritual of Sunday lunch, pudding, and tea. We go along with her on wild crafting walks--the country version of foraging for wild edibles. We visit her local fishmonger to see what we can create with his daily catch from the sea. Along the way we see how she's deviated from classic Irish recipes to add contemporary or American twists. The Farmette Cookbook is a compilation of tried-and-true recipes with an emphasis on local, fresh ingredients and traditional Irish kitchen skills, which for Imen have healed homesickness and forged new friendships.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

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“A joyful celebration of life on an Irish farm.” A super, chic book written with the appreciative eye of an outsider who reminds us of the sheer pleasure of living on a dairy farm. Rearing a few table fowl, planting a vegetable garden and an orchard, rediscovering the satisfaction of using home-grown Irish produce to make truly delicious and creative food for family and friends.

•Darina Allen “The Farmette Cookbook is a lovely combination of personal tale and transportive recipe, and it makes me want to come to Ireland tomorrow. In a world full of culinary flimflam, Imen McDonnell is the real thing: wonderful storyteller and creator of delicious recipes with a traditional edge, all mouthwateringly evocative of this magical place she now calls home.”

•Elissa Altman, author of *Poor Man’s Feast* “Imen has beautifully captured the rich heritage of Irish farmhouse cooking and cast a 21st century spell on it!”

•Catherine Fulvio, author and award-winning proprietor of Ballyknocken House & Cookery School “There is magic in Imen McDonnell’s new book, and in her story. Her dedication to uncovering Ireland’s rich food culture and cultivating her own shines through. You’ll want to dive right in, start cooking, and build your own fairy tale.”

•Sarah Copeland, author of *Feast* “Imen takes traditional Irish cooking to the next level with her American curiosity and ingenuity. She weaves big city cravings, like potstickers, tacos, banh mi, harissa, pizza, and more, with traditional comfort food made from scratch. Imen’s brave leap of faith and love is a boon for the rest of us: we now have this charming book full of stories and recipes I can’t wait to make.”

•Susan Spungen, founding food editor of *Martha Stewart Living* “It was Imen’s endearing and touching personal writing on all things Irish that first drew me to her beautiful blog. Her personal journey into the history of traditional Irish recipes is celebrated throughout this carefully considered cookbook. Filled with stories of old and inspirations from Ireland’s exciting new cooking scene, Imen is putting Irish Farmhouse Cooking firmly back on the map.”

•Donal Skehan, Irish food personality and author of *Kitchen Hero* “If you have not yet visited Ireland and tasted its authentic foods, you’ll want to after reading Imen’s new cookbook. Living on an Irish farm has never looked this attractive. What a charming and delicious book!”

•Betsy Peltre, author of *La Tartine Gourmande* “A beautiful story of an American city girl falling in love with a dashing Irish farmer and the food that she began to create once settled in rural Ireland. With recipes for everything from Nettle, Sweet Pea and Turf-Smoked Ham Soup to Irish Stout and Treacle Bread, this evocative cookbook will have you wanting to don your wellies and your best apron to grow, cook, and preserve

Imen-style. — Rachel Allen, Irish food personality, bestselling cookbook author, and teacher at the Ballymaloe Cookery School

Imen McDonnell is a contributing food and lifestyle writer and photographer for Condé Nast Traveler, The Irish Farmers Journal, and Irish Country Magazine. In a former life, she spent her days working in broadcast production while living in New York, Minneapolis, and Los Angeles. She now resides with her husband and son on their family farm in rural Ireland and shares stories of farm life and food on her popular blog, Farmette.ie. Imen's modern Irish recipes have been featured in The New York Times, The Irish Times, The Sunday Times (UK), The Los Angeles Times, Saveur Magazine, and more. When she is not cooking, writing, weeding, or photographing, you'll find Imen in the farmyard with her husband and son, milking cows, feeding calves and chickens, or just plain loving up their two donkeys and very amusing Airedale terrier, Teddy.

This is the first cookbook I ever hugged after soaking up every page, photo, and story. The how to's were simple and fabulous. I can now make my own butter, some soft cheeses, and milk products without buying them from a processed package or can. And that is the goal of Irish cooking. To make everything handmade and fresh. I visited Ireland last year and the food is glorious. This cookbook reminds me of how my grandparents cooked. Simple and fresh ingredients. It's a step away from the processed living many of us Americans have grown up on. Take a chance with this one. You won't be sorry. Lots of comfort food and NO processed ingredients in any of the recipes.

This is my favorite new cookbook. The book is full of comfort foods, and wholesome recipes. The author tells her story of moving from the USA to Ireland, from city girl to farmer's wife, when she married an Irish Dairy Farmer. She speaks of Irish customs, being a Farmer's wife and learning to cook. Frankly, It makes me want to immigrate to a farm in Ireland.

Nearly a year has passed since this book arrived on our doorstep, and we have so loved reading it and cooking from it! I have followed her blog (I Married An Irish Farmer/Modern Farmette) for years, so perhaps I am a bit biased already. I have Celiac disease, so I don't follow every recipe with the exact ingredients, rather I use a variety of gluten free flours. Having said that, the recipes are top notch, the stories are dreamy, and the book is well organized with the seasons - which I love. Many, many favorites! The soda farls were new to us, so easy to whip up, and now we have them quite often. Her Sunday roasts are all delicious! Much to love in this gem of a cookbook.

This is a great cookbook! It is visually beautiful, well written, with easy step-by-step recipes, and all of the thing I've made thus far turned out great. I really like that she teaches us how to make a lot of the more basic things as well (butter, creme fraiche, etc). I use this cookbook a lot and my kids are very happy that I do!

Can't wait to cook from this! Lovely!

I'm biased but a lovely read front to back. Pics are just amazing. Stories are heart moving!!

Great cook book. She also shares about her life in the Irish countryside. Fun read and awesome recipes.

Fascinating read as well as great recipes.

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