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The river cafe cookbook easy

Ruth Rogers and Rose Gray have created yet another superb recipe book taking easy Italian cooking even further. River Cafe Two Easy has been written in the same clear, accessible style and is complimented by vibrant photography and a fresh and striking design. River Cafe Cook Book Easy pioneered a new approach to cooking and eating. Taking account of today's frenetic lifestyles, Ruth and Rose set out to dispel the notion that stylish and healthy food meant spending hours in the kitchen. In this cookbook, they have gone even further towards taking the hassle out of midweek cooking and weekend entertaining and have made it even easier to create delicious and nutritious Italian meals in moments. They offer us a selection of delightfully simple mozzarella recipes, easy-to-assemble salads, perfect pasta, grilled meat and fish recipes, and cakes and puddings for those special occasions that do not rely on hours of slaving in the kitchen but on the wonderful flavours created by the combination of fresh, readily available ingredients. With easy recipes ranging from Potato and pancetta soup and Tomato, dried porcini and parmesan pasta to Lemon and almond tart and Pannacotta with chocolate, this book will have you planning tomorrow's meals before today's have been digested. Read more When Ruth Rogers and Rose Gray released The River Cafe Cook Book in the mid 1990s, the first from their beloved restaurant in London, it became such a classic that it was simply referred to as "the blue book." It captured a moment at one of London's—and arguably Europe's—most seminal restaurants. Rogers and Gray were embracing Italian ingredients and simplicity, writing new menus twice daily. "Both the restaurant and the book are an expression of a renaissance of the London Modern sensibility," the New Yorker wrote the year it debuted in the U.S. The book sparked a movement. And, while it spread far beyond the boundaries of London, River Cafe's deepest impact is felt locally. Chefs like celebrity Jamie Oliver; Hugh Fearnley-Whittingstall, who left London to farm and share his story through a popular TV show; and Sam and Sam Clark, the duo behind the pioneering restaurant Moro, all worked in Rogers' and Grays' kitchen before going on to help define modern cooking in London in their own ways. Thirty years after opening the restaurant, Rogers, who goes by Ruthie, wanted to look back at where it all started in River Cafe London 30, a new book out this spring. "We wanted to do a book that told the story of the restaurant," she explains. Though, this time, she would have to do it without Gray, who passed away in 2010. Rogers and her chefs Sian Wyn Owen and Joseph Trivelli reissued 30 of the original recipes (with some helpful clarifications) from the blue book and added 30 new ones, along with menus painted over by a handful of the many artists who have frequented the restaurant over the years, like Damien Hirst and Scottish painter Peter Doig. We asked Rogers which cookbooks she feels define the food of her adopted hometown of London. From those that present meals at institutions like The Wolseley to the nose-to-tail approach of Fergus Henderson, her collection is a mix of books from cooks who have inspired her, as well as a few she has inspired. Showing 1-30 Start your review of River Cafe Cookbook Easy This is probably the best simple Italian cookbook there is, and would be the perfect thing for someone who doesn't already have a lot of Italian cookbooks. It is a shame in some ways that I got to the others first, though when I think about it I'd say half those cookbooks have some kind of Rive Cafe association. I'm thinking of course of Jamie's Italy and his Naked Chef books. The influence on him is very clear. My favour This is probably the best simple Italian cookbooks have some kind of Rive Cafe association. I'm thinking of course of Jamie Oliver, who was 'discovered' in the River Cafe kitchen, specifically Jamie's Italy and his Naked Chef books. The influence on him is very clear. My favourite part of this book was the entire section dedicated to potatoes - Rose Gray and Ruth Rogers are clearly two women after my own heart. For example, there is a recipe for baby pumpkins stuffed with potatoes. Don't even try telling me that isn't a fantastic idea. Other recipes that caught my eye were broad bean soup, artichoke and potatoes and fennel, fig sorbet, plum and orange cake, walnut and brandy cake, and espresso and espresso and fennel, fig sorbet, plum and orange cake, walnut and brandy cake, and espresso and fennel, fig sorbet and fennel and hazelnut cake. ...more Ian rated it it was amazing Mar 11, 2015 Leondemump rated it really liked it Sep 24, 2016 Miles rated it it was amazing Dec 30, 2017 Tom Barnwell rated it liked it Oct 13, 2012 Karen rated it it was amazing Aug 02, 2016 Cheryl rated it it was amazing Mar 02, 2008 Emmy rated it really liked it Jul 22, 2015 Alex rated it liked it Jul 22, 2015 Alex rated it liked it Jul 21, 2019 Kerrie rated it liked it Mar 12, 2009 Carolin rated it really liked it Jun 09, 2011 Grumpylum rated it really liked it Mar 26, 2008 Here are recipes from the River Cafe to brighten up the dullest of winter days - crisp, crunchy, punchy puntarelle alla Romana; big flavoured pappardelle with pancetta and tomato; unctuous slow-cooked pork shoulder; and a sensuous, sensational coffee, walnut and hazelnut cake - all in the great tradition of Italian regional cooking. River Cafe has been one of the most influential restaurants of recent years, but these aren't restaurant dishes. The roots of the River Cafe has been one of the most influential restaurants of recent years, but these aren't restaurant dishes. The roots of the River Cafe has been one of the most influential restaurants of recent years, but these aren't restaurant dishes. The roots of the River Cafe has been one of the most influential restaurants of recent years, but these aren't restaurant dishes. They are classics in a real sense - classic ingredients, classic flavour - making the beauties of the Italian kitchen accessible to anyone interested in cooking. What could be easier? Recipes serve four. Matthew FortPuntarelle alla RomanaPuntarelle heads 2Salted anchovies 5Red-wine vinegar 2 tbspGarlic clove 1Dried chillies 2Black pepper 1 tspExtra-virgin olive oilLemon 1To prepare puntarelle, fill a bowl with cold water and ice cubes. Pull the hollow buds from the puntarelle heads. Using a small knife, slice the buds very thinly lengthways. Place in the water to crisp and curl up. This will take an hour. Rinse and fillet the anchovies, cut into 1cm pieces, and place in a small bowl. Cover with the vinegar, and stir to allow the anchovies to dissolve. Peel and chop the garlic very finely and add to the anchovy sauce. Serve with lemon. This unusual salad is traditionally Roman. Puntarelle now comes into the New Covent Garden market, which supplies specialist greengrocers and Italian restaurants. The season starts in November and ends in February. Beef carpaccioBeef fillet 500g Extra-virgin olive oil 350ml Pine nuts 50g Parmesan 100g Lemons 2Cut the fillet at a slight angle into 2mm slices. Lay each slice on clingfilm, and cover with another piece of clingfilm. Beat flat to extend and thin out each slice. Pour in olive oil to cover the bottom of a dish that will hold the beef slices in two layers. Season the fillet generously on both sides, and arrange a layer in the dish. Pour over more olive oil and repeat with another layer. The slices should be submerged. Cover with clingfilm and place in the fridge for half an hour. Lightly toast the pine nuts over a gentle heat in a dry frying pan. Shave the Parmesan into slithers. To serve, lift the beef slices from the marinade and put on a plate. Scatter with the pine nuts and Parmesan. Serve with lemon. This unusual version of carpaccio comes from Verona and is often served with grilled radicchio. Ask for short fillet, the fine-grained centre cut otherwise known as the chateaubriand. Broccoli, red wine Sprouting broccoli heads. Discard the big stalks. Remove the bigger and tougher leaves. Cut each spear of broccoli in two. Peel and cut the garlic in half.Put the broccoli and garlic into a medium, thick-bottomed saucepan, then add enough wine to half-cover the broccoli. Season, cover, and simmer for 20 minutes. Serve with a drizzle of olive oil.La Latteria is a tiny, family-run restaurant situated in an old dairy in the market in Milan, with just a few shared tables and wonderful, simple, original food. This seasonal soup using sprouting broccoli and include the small leaves in the soup. Savoy cabbage, ricotta, crostiniSavoy cabbage 1/2 Garlic clove 1 Parmesan 50g Ricotta 100g Extra-virgin olive oil Ciabatta slices 4 Chicken stock cubes 3Remove the tough outer leaves of the cabbage and wash thoroughly. Peel the garlic, and grate the Parmesan. Dissolve the stock cubes in a litre of boiling water. Mix the ricotta with salt pepper and a tablespoon of olive oil. Bring the stock to the boil, add the cabbage, and cook until very tender. Grill the ciabatta slices (or crostini) and lightly rub with garlic. Drizzle with olive oil and put a spoonful of ricotta on top, pressing it gently into the surface. Place a crostini in each soup bowl. Spoon over the cabbage, then ladle in the stock. Drizzle with olive oil and serve sprinkled with Parmesan. Good-quality stock cubes are an easy alternative to homemade broth. Italians would make their own broth with a boiling fowl, celery, carrots, parsley and onion, boiled for two to two and a half hours. Traditionally, clear soups include either pasta or crostini to make them more of a meal. Pappardelle, pancetta, tomatoEgg pappardelle 320g Plum tomatoes, then deseed and roughly chop the flesh. Cut the pancetta into 2cm pieces. Crumble the chilli and grate the Parmesan. Melt the butter in a thick-bottomed pan, add the pancetta and chilli, and cook gently until the pancetta begins to colour. Add the tomato, season and cook for 10 minutes more. Cook the pappardelle in boiling, salted water until al dente. Drain and add the pasta to the sauce. Stir in half the Parmesan. Serve with the remaining Parmesan. Pancetta is the cured belly of pork either salted and dried (stesa) or smoked (affumicata). Pancetta stesa is sometimes cured with herbs such as rosemary and/or black pepper. Pancetta affumicata is usually leaner and should be cut finer as it can be tough. We try to use a fatty stesa in this recipe, which is slowly cooked to release its delicious juices. When choosing pancetta, look for even layers of fat and meat and a sweet perfume - a porky smell indicates lack of ageing and will affect the flavour of the sauce. Linguine, crabLinguine, crabLinguine, crabLinguine 320g Crab meat 400g Fennel bulb 1 Garlic clove 1 Fennel seeds 1 tbsp Dried chillies 2 Lemon 1 Extra-virgin olive oilRemove the tough outer part and stalk of the fennel seeds 1 tbsp Dried chillies 2 Lemon 1 Extra-virgin olive oilRemove the tough outer part and stalk of the fennel seeds 1 tbsp Dried chillies 2 Lemon 1 Extra-virgin olive oilRemove the tough outer part and stalk of the fennel seeds 1 tbsp Dried chillies 2 Lemon 1 Extra-virgin olive oilRemove the tough outer part and stalk of the fennel seeds 1 tbsp Dried chillies 2 Lemon 1 Extra-virgin olive oilRemove the tough outer part and stalk of the fennel seeds 1 tbsp Dried chillies 2 Lemon 1 Extra-virgin olive oilRemove the tough outer part and stalk of the fennel seeds 1 tbsp Dried chillies 2 Lemon 1 Extra-virgin olive oilRemove the tough outer part and stalk of the fennel seeds 1 tbsp Dried chillies 2 Lemon 1 Extra-virgin olive oilRemove the tough outer part and stalk of the fennel seeds 1 tbsp Dried chillies 2 Lemon 1 Extra-virgin olive oilRemove the fennel seeds 1 tbsp Dried chillies 2 Lemon 1 Extra-virgin olive oilRemove the fennel seeds 1 tbsp Dried chillies 2 tbsp Dried chillies 2 tbsp Dried chillies 3 tbsp Dried chill Slice the bulb as finely as you can across the grain. Keep any of the green tops. Peel and finely chop the garlic. Crush the fennel seeds and crumble the chilli. Grate the zest of the lemon, and squeeze the juice. Heat two tablespoons of oil in a thick-bottomed pan, add the garlic, fennel seeds and chilli, and cook to soften. Add the crab, lemon juice and zest, and season. Stir through, just to heat up the crab. Cook the linguine in boiling, salted water for five minutes, then add to the fennel slices and cook together until al dente. Drain the pasta, keeping a little of the reserved water to loosen the sauce if necessary. Serve with olive oil. If cooking crab yourself, buy them live and choose one or two large crabs - it will be much easier to pick the meat out from them than from many small ones. Cock crabs (males) have larger claws and a higher proportion of white meat than from the common crab, as the meat-to-shell ratio is lower. Smashed cannellini, olives Dried chillies 2 Young spinach 500g Garlic cloves 2 Sage leaves 2 thsp Small black olives 100g Extra-virgin olive oilSoak the beans overnight with the bicarbonate of soda. Crumble the chillies. Wash the spinach and remove any tough stalks. Peel the garlic Rinse the beans under cold water. Put the beans in a saucepan with the garlic and discard the sage. Add a tablespoon of sea salt and cook until tender - about 45 minutes in total. Drain, keep the garlic and discard the sage. Add three tablespoons of olive oil, and roughly smash the beans and garlic. Season with half the chilli and black pepper. Boil the spinach in salted water for three minutes, then drain. Press gently to remove excess moisture. While it's still warm, season and mix in a tablespoon of olive oil, and the olives, some black pepper. Boil the spinach in salted water for three minutes, then drain. Press gently to remove excess moisture. and a pinch of chilli. Fry for a minute. Put the spinach and cannellini beans on plates, scatter the olives over the top and sprinkle with chilli. Try to find Taggiasca olives, which come from the Ligurian coast. Usually preserved in brine, they are deep purple, small and have a fruity flavour. They are similar to Nicoise olives. Roast potatoes in a panWaxy potatoes 600g Rosemary leaves 2 tbsp Garlic cloves 3 Extra-virgin olive oil to cover the bottom. When very hot, add the potatoes, rosemary and garlic, season generously and cover. Cook over a medium high heat, shaking the pan to prevent them from sticking. Make sure the potatoes are turned over so they become crisp and brown on all sides. This will take 15 minutes. This recipe is for roast potato lovers who do not have an oven. It is a very traditional Italian recipe and is often on the menu in Tuscan trattorias. Crab, chilli, fennel (Serves 2)Live crabs 2 x 800g Garlic cloves 8 Fresh root ginger 70g Fennel seeds 1 tbsp Fresh red chillies 4 Fennel herb 4 tbsp Lemons 3 Tomatoes 4 Extra-virgin olive oil 4 tbsp White wine 200mlPeel and finely slice the garlic and ginger. Crush the fennel seeds. Wash and slice the chillies diagonally into rings, letting some of the seeds fall out. Wash and chop the fennel. Squeeze the juice of two lemons. Cut the remaining lemon into quarters. Peel, deseed and roughly to break the shell in the claws and thicker legs. Heat the oil in a large, thick-bottomed pan with a well-fitting lid. Add the crab, garlic, ginger, fennel seeds and chilli. Stir briefly, then add the tomatoes, wine and half the lemon juice. Season generously with salt and pepper, cover and cook for 10 minutes. Add the fennel and the remaining lemon juice. Serve with the juices in a large bowl, with a lemon quarter. You have to buy small crabs, one per person, for this recipe. Versions of this recipe can be found from China through India and into the Mediterranean. Poached turbot, salsa verdeFor the salsa verdeFor peppercorns 2 this White wine 350ml For the salsa verde, chop the parsley and mint, put into a bowl and cover with olive oil. Peel the garlic, and chop with the capers and anchovies. Add to the herbs and mint, put into a bowl and cover with olive oil. Peel the garlic, and chop with the capers and anchovies. Add to the herbs and mix. Stir in the mustard and vinegar, season and add more olive oil to loosen the sauce. In a saucepan wide enough to fit the turbot pieces in one layer, add all the ingredients except for the fish. Add a litre and a half of water and boil for 30 minutes. Reduce to a simmer and add the fish. The fish should be covered by the liquid - top up with hot water if necessary. Poach for 10 minutes, then remove from the heat, and drain. Serve hot or at room temperature, with the salsa verde. The flavour of the broth should be delicate and fresh. Choose a light dry white wine such as pinot bianco. Pork shoulder and remove the skin. (For four people, you would need half a small shoulder.) Peel the garlic and cut each clove in half. Peel the rind from the lemon. Season the piece of pork generously all over. Heat half the butter with the olive oil in a medium, thick-bottomed saucepan with a lid, just large enough to hold the pork. Brown the meat on all sides. Drain off excess oil, then add the remaining butter, the garlic, sage and lemon peel. Fry to colour the garlic, then add half the wine. Reduce the heat, half-cover and simmer very slowly for three hours, adding more wine to keep a fraction of liquid in the pan at all times. Start adding the milk after all the wine has evaporated. The milk should begin to curdle and thicken in the last half-hour. The pork will be cooked when you can break it up with a spoon. Choose your pork shoulder carefully. It should have a thick layer of fat beneath the skin. The fat renders down in the very slow cooking, keeping the meat moist and tender. Veal shin, butter, white wineVeal shin 1 Garlic cloves 14 Ciabatta slices 4 Unsalted butter 100g Thyme sprigs 3-4 White wine 200ml Extra-virgin olive oilPreheat the oven to 200C/400F/gas mark 6. Season the meat generously. Peel the garlic. In a thick-bottomed pan, heat the butter, and brown the meat on all sides. Remove from the pan, discard the butter, and brown the meat on all sides. Remove from the pan, discard the butter, and brown the meat on all sides. Remove from the pan, discard the butter, and brown the meat on all sides. Remove from the pan, discard the butter, and brown the meat on all sides. Remove from the pan, discard the butter, and brown the meat on all sides. Remove from the pan, discard the butter, and brown the meat on all sides. paper and the lid, and put into the oven for 15 minutes, basting occasionally. Lower the heat to 170C/325F/gas mark 3, and cook for a further two hours, basting every 20 minutes to brown. Toast the bread on each side, and rub lightly with the remaining garlic. Drizzle with olive oil. The meat will fall into pieces off the bone. Tap out the marrow. Serve the meat with the juices and a crostini spread with the marrow. Serve the meat with the juices and a crostini spread with the marrow. Serve the meat will fall into pieces off the bone. Tap out the marrow. Serve the meat will fall into pieces off the bone. Tap out the marrow. Serve the meat with the juices and a crostini spread with the marrow. Serve the meat will fall into pieces off the bone. Tap out the marrow. Serve the meat will fall into pieces off the bone. Tap out the marrow. Serve the meat will fall into pieces off the bone. Tap out the marrow. Serve the meat will fall into pieces off the bone. Tap out the marrow. Serve the meat will fall into pieces off the bone. Tap out the marrow. Serve the meat will fall into pieces off the bone. Tap out the marrow. Serve the meat will fall into pieces off the bone. Tap out the marrow. Serve the meat will fall into pieces off the bone. Tap out the marrow. Serve the meat will fall into pieces off the bone. Tap out the marrow. Serve the meat will fall into pieces off the bone. Tap out the marrow. Serve the meat will fall into pieces off the bone. Tap out the marrow. Serve the meat will fall into pieces off the bone. Tap out the marrow is a serve the meat will be a 240g Shelled hazelnuts 240g Vanilla pods 3 Unsalted butter 380g Caster sugar 380g Eggs, organic 5 Plain flour, grease a 25cm cake tin and line with parchment paper. Dissolve the coffee in two tablespoons of boiling water. Chop the walnuts. Roast theorem hazelnuts in the preheated oven until brown (about 10 minutes), cool, then rub off the skins and grind to a fine powder. Finely chop the vanilla pods. Beat the eggs into the mixture one at a time. Fold in the flour and baking powder and finally stir in the coffee. Spoon into the prepared tin and bake in the preheated oven for an hour and a quarter. Allow to cool on a rack. Using instant coffee in this recipe is intentional. The cake requires a very strong coffee flavour with as little liquid as possible, which rules out using filter or even espresso coffee. Roasted almond ice cream For the creme anglaiseDouble cream 400ml Milk 125ml Vanilla pod 1 Eggs, organic 4 Caster sugar 90gBlanched almonds 250g Creme anglaise - you will need 500ml in all for this recipe. Separate the eggs. Cut the vanilla pod in half lengthways and scrape out the seeds. In a thickbottomed pan, combine the milk, vanilla seeds and cream. Cook until just boiling. Beat the egg yolks and stir. Return to the saucepan and cook over low heat, stirring constantly. When it is almost at boiling point, remove from heat. If it boils, the sauce will curdle. Set aside to cool.Preheat the oven to 180C/350F/gas mark 4. Place the almonds on a flat oven tray and bake until lightly brown. Add the butter and sugar, mix and bash into bits with a rolling pin. Stir the almonds into the creme anglaise. Freeze in a shallow container, stirring every half-hour or so, or churn in an ice-cream machine. Emon, mascarpone tartFor the sweet pastryUnsalted butter 225g Eggs, organic 6 Egg yolks, organic 6 Caster sugar 350g Mascarpone 300g Icing sugar 2 tbspFor the pastry, cut the cold butter into small pieces. Separate the eggs. In a food processor, pulse-chop the flour, salt and butter to the texture of coarse breadcrumbs. Add the icing sugar and egg yolks, and pulse into a soft ball. Wrap in clingfilm and chill for one hour. Preheat the oven to 150C/300F/gas mark 2. Coarsely grate the pastry into a loose-bottomed, fluted 26cm flan tin, then press it down evenly to cover the sides and base. Line with greaseproof paper and fill with baking beans. Bake blind for 20 minutes. Cool.Reduce the oven to 140C/275F/gas mark 1. For the filling, grate the lemon zest, squeeze the juice, and mix together. Beat the whole eggs and extra yolks with the sugar. Add the mascarpone, stir to combine, then stir in the lemon mixture. Pour into the tart shell and bake for an hour. Leave to cool, then sprinkle over the icing sugar. Rhubarb, orange Champagne rhubarb 500g Blood orange 1 Vanilla pods 2 Demerara sugar 3 tbsp Creme fraiche 150g Preheat the oven to 150C/300F/gas mark 2. Cut the rhubarb into 5-6cm lengths. Finely grate the zest of half the orange, then squeeze the juice. Split the vanilla pods, and scrape out some of the seeds. Lay the rhubarb pieces flat in a small baking dish. Scatter over the vanilla pods, and scrape out some of the seeds. Lay the rhubarb pieces flat in a small baking dish. Scatter over the vanilla pods, and scrape out some of the seeds. Lay the rhubarb pieces flat in a small baking dish. Scatter over the vanilla pods. Pour over the vanilla pods. Pour over the vanilla pods. Pour over the vanilla pods. rhubarb is the first bright pink rhubarb to appear in the shops around the end of January. It is a forced variety and is tender and sweet - you hardly need to do anything to it other than add brown sugar. We also add a little orange zest and juice - a classic combination. Ruth Rogers and Rose Gray's most recent cookbooks, River Cafe Easy and River Cafe Two Easy, are both published by Ebury Press at £20.

