



Spice: Flavors of the Eastern Mediterranean

By Ana Sortun

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Spice: Flavors of the Eastern Mediterranean By Ana Sortun

On a trip to Turkey as a young woman, chef Ana Sortun fell in love with the food and learned the traditions of Turkish cooking from local women. Inspired beyond measure, Sortun opened her own restaurant in Cambridge, Massachusetts, the award-winning Oleana, where she creates her own interpretations of dishes incorporating the incredible array of delicious spices and herbs used in eastern regions of the Mediterranean.

In this gorgeously photographed book, Sortun shows readers how to use this philosophy of spice to create wonderful dishes in their own homes. She reveals how the artful use of spices and herbs rather than fat and cream is key to the full, rich flavors of Mediterranean cuisine -- and the way it leaves you feeling satisfied afterward. The book is organized by spice, detailing the ways certain spices complement one another and how they flavor other foods and creating in home cooks a kind of sense-memory that allows for a more intuitive use of spice in their own dishes. The more than one hundred tantalizing spice categories and recipes include:

- Beef Shish Kabobs with Sumac Onions and Parsley Butter
- Chickpea and Potato Terrine Stuffed with Pine Nuts, Spinach, Onion, and Tahini
- Crispy Lemon Chicken with Za'atar
- Golden Gazpacho with Condiments
- Fried Haloumi Cheese with Pear and Spiced Dates

Absolutely alive with spices and herbs, Ana Sortun's recipes will intrigue and inspire readers everywhere.

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Editorial Review

Review

“Only a brilliant chef like Ana could have created such a warm and evocative cookbook filled with enticing recipes.” (Clifford A. Wright, author of the James Beard Cookbook of the Year A Mediterranean Feast)

“This book beautifully codifies the marvelous dishes I’ve eaten at Oleana, all of which bear her special inventive touch.” (Paula Wolfert, author of The Cooking of the Eastern Mediterranean)

“A thousand and one nights worth of cooking. . . . Sortun’s recipes are as seamless as her food.” (Los Angeles Times)

About the Author

Ana Sortun was named the “Best Chef: Northeast” at the 2005 James Beard Awards for her restaurant, Oleana, in Cambridge, Massachusetts, which she opened in 2001. Known for unique Arabic-Mediterranean food, Oleana has received much local and national praise. Sortun holds a degree from Ecole de Cuisine La Varenne in Paris. She lives in Lincoln, Massachusetts, with her husband and daughter.

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