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Luau Like A Local: The Easy Way



Synopsis

This delightful luau planner and cookbook honors the many influences that shape the cuisine of Hawaii. The islands have long welcomed people from around the world, and many foods of Asia are staples in Hawaii, along with Polynesian, Filipino, Spanish, Portuguese, and American dishes. An authentic luau is a global dining experience as well as a great party. The dishes offered in this cookbook make the most of the many cuisines of Hawaii, yet they are simple enough for mainland cooks to prepare easily, using ordinary ingredients found in many supermarkets. When special ingredients are required, JoAnn and Susanna Takasaki suggest the substitutions that they've come up with over the years. A Hawaiian luau brings friends and family together to enjoy food, music, and fun. It's meant to be casual and lighthearted, an excuse for friends to spend time together and "talk story." In Hawaii, a luau is usually a community effort. Every cook brings their favorite dish to make, the special recipe they know their friends like. Neighbors help dig the pit used to slow cook the pig. The hosts provide the setting for a casual outdoor party. The recipes in this book are time-tested and many have been passed down for generations. Each is well written and easy to follow, most accompanied by beautiful photographs. The authors have included extensive explanatory notes where needed and added entertaining commentary about particular recipes or their family history. The cookbook also includes shopping lists, online resources, and timetables for throwing a luau as effortlessly as possible. Readers will learn how to prepare traditional Hawaiian foods like kalua pig with sweet potatoes, lomi salmon, and poi. Guava cake is a favorite Hawaiian dessert, one that can be made from a mix or from scratch. On a luau dessert table, guava cake may be offered beside squares of sweet haupia, a firm coconut pudding with a Polynesian heritage. "The Hawaiians have incorporated many different dishes into what is now considered a traditional luau," the author explains. "This book has a little something from and for everyone, and you can mix and match as you please." Examples include recipes for Filipino-style adobo chicken wings and smoky-sweet yakitori (Japanese marinated chicken skewers). Luau Like a Local: The Easy Way offers easy yet authentic recipes for all the traditional luau dishes. Some recipes even come with instructions for making exciting new meals with the leftovers. Interested cooks can also make a true Hawaiian plate lunch with these recipes using scoops of Hawaiian white rice, macaroni salad, and an entree like pork or chicken laulau. Anyone who eats one of these lunches will think they are back in the islands. These authentic recipes are the real thing, gathered from a large extended family that loves to cook and entertain without requiring anyone to dig up their backyard to throw a luau. They are recipes from a family that lived in many places outside Hawaii and often entertained with a luau wherever they lived. All are presented

in delicious and easy-to-prepare ways so that anyone can put together the luau described in this book, anywhere. The purpose of a luau is to bring friends and family together and treat them well. This cookbook makes that easy. With it, you, too, can experience the joy of sharing the pleasures of the Hawaiian table.

Book Information

File Size: 15523 KB

Print Length: 62 pages

Simultaneous Device Usage: Unlimited

Publisher: GlobalWrites Publishing; 1 edition (November 25, 2014)

Publication Date: November 25, 2014

Sold by: Amazon Digital Services LLC

Language: English

ASIN: B00Q5ZIP5Q

Text-to-Speech: Enabled

X-Ray: Not Enabled

Word Wise: Enabled

Lending: Not Enabled

Enhanced Typesetting: Enabled

Best Sellers Rank: #667,265 Paid in Kindle Store (See Top 100 Paid in Kindle Store) #78

in Amazon Books > Cookbooks, Food & Wine > Regional & International > U.S. Regional > Hawaii

#1164 in Amazon Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Cookbooks, Food & Wine > Special Occasions

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Customer Reviews

There is a lot to say about this wonderful book, but I will try to keep it short and sweet. The book itself is beautifully rendered with great photos of each dish, a clean and modern format, and clear instructions on how to prepare each dish. Included are tips that cover everything from how to shop for ingredients to methods for simplifying prep. The best part is that these are authentic Hawaiian recipes handed down through the author's family. I just got my copy and haven't had a chance to try any of the dishes yet, but I am pleased that it relies on simple methods and commonly available ingredients--so you get authenticity that can be achieved without going to a great deal of trouble. I can't wait to give a few of them a try and will update my review after I do.

This book is charming! I cannot wait to plan a luau for my daughter's graduation party. Everything is included in this book, including the all important what-to-do lists. The photos are lovely, the word mouthwatering comes to mind! Though some of the recipes appear challenging for a novice like me, all steps are spelled out. The book is well organized and the tips are especially helpful. This would make a fabulous hostess gift, and would be a treat for anyone who entertains and enjoys planning the menu as much as planning the party!

I love this book. I have been looking at hosting a luau but wanting something more authentic. This book offers great authentic recipes along with a few shortcuts should items not be available in your area so you don't panic.

Excellent recipes with a great sense of humor. I love the gorgeous photography and that the recipes give allowances for optional ingredients. Highly recommended!

I love this book! We are doing a luau in a few weeks here in Kansas and we are using many of the recipes and ideas from the book. My husband is from Hawaii so we know good local food and this book has it!!

This book has everything you need to throw a wonderful, authentic luau. I especially love the planning guidelines and shopping lists at the back of the book. Fool proof!

Not many recipes and definitely not enough for the price.

Small book that's packed with fun and the wife says the recipes look pretty simple. We're already planning luau with friends!

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