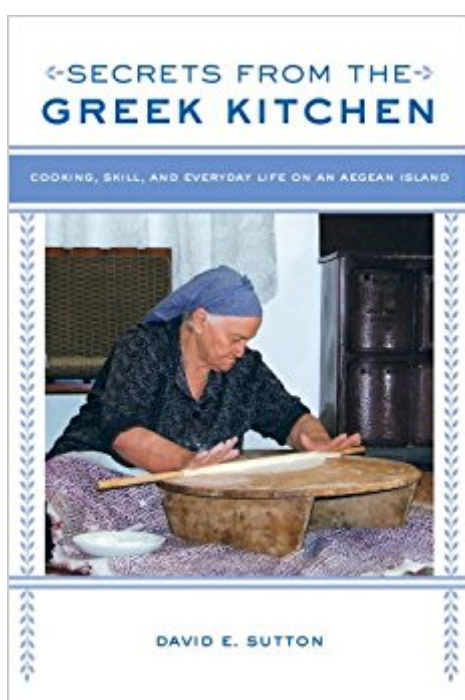


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Secrets From The Greek Kitchen: Cooking, Skill, And Everyday Life On An Aegean Island (California Studies In Food And Culture)



Synopsis

Secrets from the Greek Kitchen explores how cooking skills, practices, and knowledge on the island of Kalymnos are reinforced or transformed by contemporary events. Based on more than twenty years of research and the author's videos of everyday cooking techniques, this rich ethnography treats the kitchen as an environment in which people pursue tasks, display expertise, and confront culturally defined risks. Kalymnian islanders, both women and men, use food as a way of evoking personal and collective memory, creating an elaborate discourse on ingredients, tastes, and recipes. Author David E. Sutton focuses on micropractices in the kitchen, such as the cutting of onions, the use of a can opener, and the rolling of phyllo dough, along with cultural changes, such as the rise of televised cooking shows, to reveal new perspectives on the anthropology of everyday living.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"Sutton's book, impeccably researched and lucidly presented, complicates and challenges this widespread view while also providing the tools and guideposts needed to re-think what it means to cook and the myriad reasons why it matters in Kalymnos and elsewhere." (Marcia Carabello Graduate Journal of Food Studies 2015-01-01)

147; This is a beautifully written book that transports you into the heart of ordinary, everyday Greek life. David Sutton's method is innovative and his writing lucid. He draws readers into

an intimate ethnographic adventure; an embodied and sensorial cultural immersion; in which they have the sense of inquiring and learning alongside him. — Laurie Kain Hart, Stinnes Professor of Global Studies and Professor of Anthropology, Haverford College

Secrets from the Greek Kitchen is yet another fine example of Sutton's ability to draw our attention to details that matter through insightful ethnography and engaging writing. He brings his informants' stories to life and unravels the magic behind a world that otherwise might be thought of as familiar, everyday, and insignificant. Once you have read this book you will never again consider cooking as trivial and mundane. — Eleana Yalouri, Panteion University of Social and Political Sciences

I very much enjoyed reading this book. I've only been to a few of the Greek islands but have always wondered about the lives of the people who live there. The stories are great and the writing style very easy and enjoyable to read. Just like the author, I feel like I was invited into people's homes and shared a part of their lives.

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