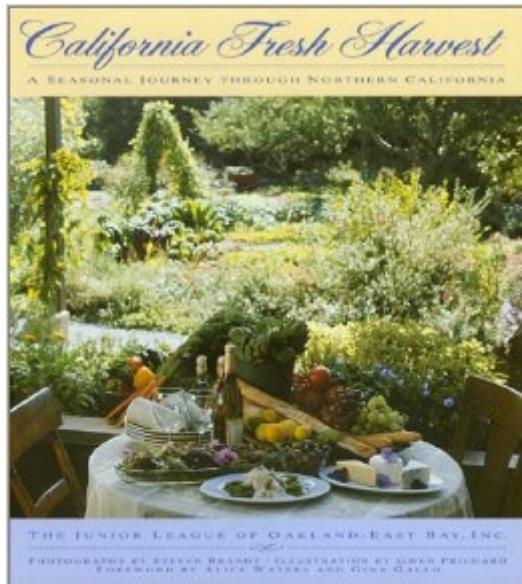


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# California Fresh Harvest: A Seasonal Journey Through Northern California



## **Synopsis**

Arranged by season, this cookbook highlights the abundance of fresh foods cultivated in Northern California. In addition to our members' favorite recipes, which have been triple-tested in our own kitchens, California Fresh Harvest provides fascinating food lore, inspirational menus, wine pairings, cooking tips, and information on local events and special destinations. In the tradition of the treasured, original California Fresh cookbook, again the Junior League of Oakland-East Bay has created a classic for Northern California residents and visitors alike.

## **Book Information**

Series: California Fresh

Hardcover: 228 pages

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Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (15 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #845,156 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #153 in Books > Cookbooks, Food & Wine > Regional & International > U.S. Regional > California #662 in Books > Cookbooks, Food & Wine > Entertaining & Holidays > Seasonal #2250 in Books > Cookbooks, Food & Wine > Desserts

## **Customer Reviews**

I originally received this cookbook as a gift. I was so delighted with it, I subsequently ordered four additional copies to give as gifts. The recipients are still thanking me! First, the recipes are creative and delicious -- fully enhancing the flavors of bountiful, diverse, fresh ingredients found in the San Francisco Bay Area and Wine Country. (It's hard NOT to eat well in this region!) Second, the cookbook itself is uncommonly successful in evoking this spectacular setting with gorgeous photos, sidebars of interesting sidetrips, local restaurants and wineries, and mind-boggling facts regarding the abundance of local agriculture. Food preparation tips, background information on local food and wine festivals/events, and delicacies such as Meyer Lemons are also highlighted. While it's fun to simply browse through this beautiful cookbook, it's even better to sample the Junior League's trade-mark "home cooking with flair." Full menus are offered here. My personal favorites are the

Baja Guacamole, Savory Polenta w/Asiago Cheese, Garlic-Roasted Chicken, Pork Tenderloin w/Apricot Ginger Sauce, and Cherries & Berries Compote w/Crispy Puffed Pancake. The Chocolate Caramel Shortbread Bars are worth the price of admission all by themselves! I'm not surprised this cookbook is winning national rave reviews and awards. They are very well deserved! It is so beautifully rendered, it puts most commercially-produced cookbooks to shame.

I received this cookbook as a gift. I must admit, at first I found it so nice to look at that it sat on my coffee table on display. Recently, however, I hosted a baby shower and prepared several dishes which were simple yet elegant. Everyone was so impressed--I felt like Martha Stewart without any of the hassle. Another nice feature of this cookbook is that it recommends menus, which is great, b/c I never know what to serve together. This is one of my favorite cookbooks now!

This is only the second recipe book I have bought, and I have found it to be excellent. I am not a very experienced cook, but California Fresh Harvest has recipes that even I can turn into pretty impressive dishes. I have cooked for two dinner parties out of this book, both of which were great successes. I highly recommend this book to both experienced and beginning cooks.

This beautiful cookbook is organized by season, with four fresh produce items featured for each season. This allows even the most novice cook to find simple recipes using the freshest of ingredients. This book is a great place to start to add seasonal produce to your menus. The recipes are not limited to those contributed by Junior League members, but also include recipes from notable California restaurants. A bonus: this book is so attractive that it could practically be a coffee table book. The photographs and information about Northern California are exceptional.

Received this cookbook as a gift and have since given it as a wedding gift... this is my favorite cookbook hands down... has a great layout with nice pictures... recipes are organized seasonally with focus on fresh local food... recipes have interesting combinations of flavors and spices... everything I've made has turned out to be something I'd make again as a staple meal for entertaining or just for the family.

I'm a good cook always looking for new recipes. This book has great ones! Everything I've tried from the book so far has turned out deliciously, and even got a 'thumbs up' from my kids! But that's not all. There are beautiful photographs throughout. You really could keep it on your coffee table. The

other aspect of this book that I think makes it so great are the sidebars. It almost reads like a travel guide. There are all sorts of interesting places to go and things to do described in detail - even dates for some events. It's a great gift for locals as well as out-of-town visitors. Everyone in my family has a copy!

This cookbook stands out because it's not typical for its genre! Most cookbooks I've bought over the years, have very few really worthwhile recipes and I rarely use most of them. This one is a gem and has many recipes that are wonderful! Plus the overall book design is also exceptional. I HIGHLY recommend it.

"California Fresh Harvest" is the First Place National Winner for the 2001 TABASCO® Community Cookbook Awards competition. In naming the winners, the distinguished panel of judges said, "We are proud to honor the contribution your organization is making to preserve our American local and regional culinary customs while benefiting your community in a substantial way." The TABASCO® Community Cookbook Awards were established by the McIlhenny Company to recognize the role these books play in chronicling and preserving local culinary traditions, which may have been around for generations.

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