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Spritz: Italy's Most Iconic Aperitivo Cocktail, With Recipes



Synopsis

A narrative-driven book on the surprising history and current revival of spritz cocktails (a wine-based drink served as an aperitif), with 50 recipes, including both historical classics and modern updates. From Milan to Los Angeles, Venice to New York, the spritz "Italy's bitter and bubbly aperitivo cocktail" has become synonymous with a leisurely, convivial golden hour. But the spritz is more than just an early evening cocktail "it's a style of drinking. In *Spritz*, Talia Baiocchi and Leslie Pariseau trace the drink's origins to ancient Rome, uncover its unlikely history and culture, explore the evolution of aperitivo throughout Northern Italy, and document the spritz's revival around the world. From regional classics to modern variations, *Spritz* includes dozens of recipes from some of America's most lauded bartenders, a guide to building a spritz bar, and a collection of food recipes for classic Italian snacks to pair alongside.

Book Information

Hardcover: 176 pages

Publisher: Ten Speed Press (March 15, 2016)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1607748851

ISBN-13: 978-1607748854

Product Dimensions: 5.8 x 0.8 x 8.3 inches

Shipping Weight: 15.5 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.9 out of 5 stars See all reviews (27 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #42,566 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #34 in Books > Cookbooks, Food & Wine > Beverages & Wine > Cocktails & Mixed Drinks #35 in Books > Cookbooks, Food & Wine > Beverages & Wine > Wine & Spirits > Wine #40 in Books > Cookbooks, Food & Wine > Italian Cooking

Customer Reviews

Spritz is a delightful small format book that covers all you need to know about the world famous drink that was born in Italy. The book can be split into four main sections, history of the spritz, anatomy of a spritz, recipes for making them at home, and some snack recipes to eat along with your drink. The history section packs a lot of information into a small amount space covering topics such as the introduction of bitter liqueur, soda water and eventually the transition to prosecco. It talks about how the spritz has evolved over time and how it is different in each area of Italy along the spritz trail from Turin to Trieste. The second section which I call the anatomy of the spritz defines

a spritz as a low alcohol, pre dinner drink that is effervescent however the detailed descriptions of the many ingredients available to choose from show how complex a spritz can be. This section starts with a beautiful diagram of a spritz which seems sparse in its appearance but really provides a great visual on how to compose a drink. It then discusses, how to spritz, how to build a spritz bar and detailed descriptions of the aperitivo liqueurs, wine and fortified wines and also the source of bubbles. There are also a handful of sidebars throughout the book that provided extra information on topics such as prosecco and aromatized wines. This section ends with a brief overview of flavored syrups, shrubs and fruit liqueurs. The recipe section is has a beautiful layout with many full page pictures adjacent to recipes. A nice feature is that under the title of each the glass type and garnish are listed before anything else. The ingredients are listed in the left margin and usually consist of less than five ingredients. The instructions for each drink are brief but effective.

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