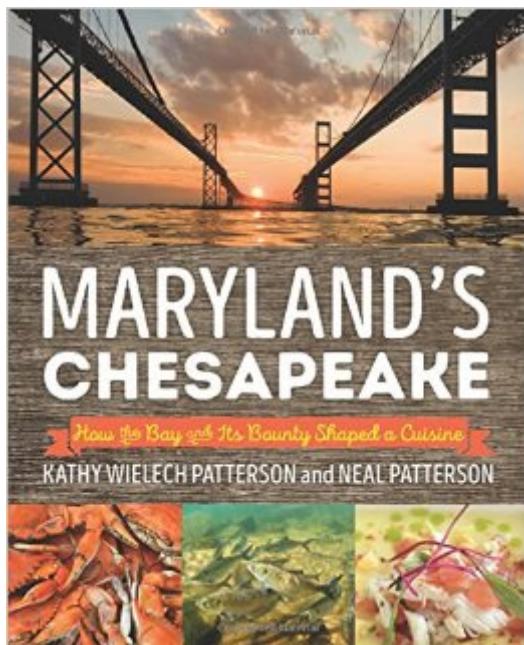


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# Maryland's Chesapeake: How The Bay And Its Bounty Shaped A Cuisine



## Synopsis

The culinary heritage of most regions in the US is often determined by the ethnic cuisine of those who settled there, whether it be the Cajun/Creole food of Louisiana or the Italian-inspired fare of the Northeast. For Maryland, the food that defines the state is less about the ethnicity of the population than the bounty which springs forth from the Chesapeake Bay. The Native Americans, British, Germans, and Poles were all influenced by the variety of fish, oysters, clams, crabs, and terrapins that could be harvested from the largest estuary in North America. In addition to seafood, other dishes associated with the region were developed because of the unique lifestyle created by living along the water. The Smith Island cake, for example, was created as a sturdy dessert that fishermen could take aboard ship during their long days fishing the Chesapeake. Also, the wealthy landowners who first arrived in Maryland, seeking elegant dishes for their lavish dinner parties, concocted ingenious uses for the chickens, squirrels, muskrats, and produce available on the fertile lands along the Bay. The book is not just about the past, however. The recent trend of sustainability and eating local has brought about a grassroots effort to preserve the delicate nature of the Chesapeake Bay. Modern techniques such as oyster farming and fishing invasive species to protect the indigenous flora and fauna will be explored. Of course, recipes will be presented to not only illustrate classic dishes that developed over time, but also modern versions created by some of Maryland's top chefs.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Within the glossy pages here you'll find a concisely and wittily written wealth of information on the history of the fabled Chesapeake Bay and its legendary seafood. The recipes included feature updated twists on classics along with a full rundown of the basics. They are ambitious and sophisticated, yet clear, straightforward instructions make them accessible to anyone who loves to cook (and eat!) Lots of options, from simple family dinners to impressive company fare. All this and desserts, too! Beautiful photographs and breezy text make you want to try every recipe, it all looks that appealing. This book will be a valued addition to your cookbook collection. It is to mine.

Excellent, insightful window into the importance of and contributions made by the Chesapeake Bay - from an historical, ecological, and culinary viewpoint. Beautiful photography and excellent recipes [ranging from the simple and earthy to the elegant] from esteemed local chefs. I am now purchasing a copy for my adventurous cooking son who loves the bay. Thank you, Kathy and Neal! A labor of love.

A beautiful and sumptuous (and delicious) publication, not to be read on an empty stomach. The Pattersons explore a region and a culture through local recipes, histories, and their own insightful observations accompanied by gorgeous photography. Makes an exceptional gift - buy one for yourself and another for a friend!

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