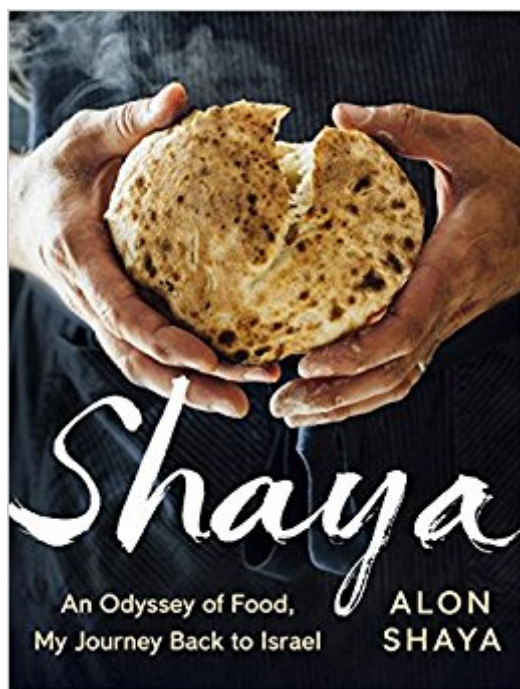




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# Shaya: An Odyssey Of Food, My Journey Back To Israel



## Synopsis

An exciting debut cookbook that confirms the arrival of a new guru chef . . . A moving, deeply personal journey of survival and discovery that tells of the evolution of a cuisine and of the transformative power and magic of food and cooking. From the two-time James Beard Award-winning chef whose celebrated New Orleans restaurants have been hailed as the country's most innovative and best by *Bon App tit*, *Food & Wine*, *Saveur*, *GQ*, and *Esquire*. "Alon's journey is as gripping and as seductive as his cooking . . . Lovely stories, terrific food." --Yotam Ottolenghi, author of *Jerusalem: A Cookbook* "Breathtaking. Bravo." --Joan Nathan, author of *King Solomon's Table* Alon Shaya's is no ordinary cookbook. It is a memoir of a culinary sensibility that begins in Israel and wends its way from the U.S.A. (Philadelphia) to Italy (Milan and Bergamo), back to Israel (Jerusalem) and comes together in the American South, in the heart of New Orleans. It's a book that tells of how food saved the author's life and how, through a circuitous path of (cooking) twists and (life-affirming) turns the author's celebrated cuisine--food of his native Israel with a creole New Orleans kick came to be, along with his award-winning New Orleans restaurants: Shaya, Domenica, and Pizza Domenica, ranked by *Esquire*, *Bon App tit*, and others as the best new restaurants in the United States.     These are stories of place, of people, and of the food that connects them, a memoir of one man's culinary sensibility, with food as the continuum throughout his journey--guiding his personal and professional decisions, punctuating every memory, choice, every turning point in his life. Interspersed with glorious full-color photographs and illustrations that follow the course of all the flavors Shaya has tried, places he's traveled, things he's experienced, lessons he's learned--more than one hundred recipes--from Roasted Chicken with Harissa to Speckled Trout with Tahini and Pine Nuts; Crab Cakes with Preserved Lemon Aioli; Roasted Cast-Iron Ribeye; Marinated Soft Cheese with Herbs and Spices; Buttermilk Biscuits; and Whole Roasted Cauliflower with Whipped Feta.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

An early embrace of Alon Shaya's SHAYA An Odyssey of Food, My Journey Back to Israel is a breathtaking. What makes this book dazzle is that Alon does not discard his food memories but transforms them into the recipes that so many of us have eaten at his restaurants Domenica and Shaya and can now enjoy by making them at home. Bravo!

Joan Nathan, author of King Solomon's Table

The way Alon weaves his cuisine through different cultures that he has encountered should be an inspiration to all young cooks who strive to create their own style. His book is as refreshing as it is imaginative.

Marc Vetri, author of Mastering Pasta

Alon's journey is as gripping and as seductive as his cooking: from his safta's lamb kebabs to his liaisons with drug dealers at fifteen; from his blueberry rugelach or bright green falafel to the 500 crab cakes he lost to hurricane Katrina. Lovely stories, terrific food.

Yotam Ottolenghi, author of Jerusalem: A Cookbook

Alon Shaya's book is an exquisite expression of the way food can become so enriched with culture and tradition that it changes our culinary landscape. Whether it's the Borekas that taught him lessons as a child or the Red Beans and Rice that he selflessly made to save victims of Hurricane Katrina, Alon Shaya is a true hero of mine. I would recommend this book to ambitious chefs and anyone looking for an inspiring read.

Mario Batali, author of Mario Batali's Big American Cookbook

ALON SHAYA is executive chef and partner of Domenica, Pizza Domenica, and Shaya. He opened Domenica, a regional Italian restaurant, in the New Orleans historic Roosevelt Hotel in 2009. Five years later, in 2014, he opened Pizza Domenica. After several visits to Israel, he was inspired to go back to his roots of cooking, and in 2015 opened his namesake Israeli restaurant, Shaya, in Touro (a neighborhood of New Orleans).

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