



# Seasons

*Donna Hay*

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**Seasons** Donna Hay

The perfect dish, whatever the season.

SEASONS builds on the trend for cooking with whichever ingredients are in season, which means you will always be eating beautifully fresh food. Designed with Donna's usual flair for food styling, SEASONS features more lifestyle than Donna's previous books, giving readers tips and suggestions for how to enjoy the best of each season.

## Seasons Details

Date : Published October 21st 2009 by HarperCollins Publishers (Australia) Pty Ltd

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Author : Donna Hay

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Genre : Food and Drink, Cookbooks, Cooking, Food

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## From Reader Review Seasons for online ebook

### Mercedes says

All the Donna Hay books I have seen are beautiful. This is not a vegetarian book, but the photography and layout are so perfect that it inspires me to try and recreate the feeling in my own cooking.

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### rob says

This is a wonderfully presented piece of marketing fluff for Donna Hay. It's primarily a photographic essay based around lovely landscapes, beautiful people (certainly models), carefully sculptured table settings and the occasional recipe. It makes a lovely coffee table book but it's mostly a waste of space as a cookbook - way too many pages for way too few recipes.

Having said that, I've tried out a few of the recipes. Most are routine, but I have tried some that are a little away from the norm and turned out very well. They include roasted vegetable and beetroot salad, sage roasted pork belly (esp YUM) and cheat's spinach, ricotta and mint gnocchi.

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### Kathryn Harrison says

A best of book that sorts by seasons. Lots of great recipes but also serves as a coffee table book. The photography is outstanding. Makes me want to find a vintage Morris Minor, pack a picnic basket and drag two of three impossibly beautiful friends to the middle of nowhere to enjoy some beautifully prepared sandwiches!

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### Trine Ann says

Wonderful Photos presenting core ingredients - essential book to kick off spring !

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### Darren says

First, do not open this book if you are in a hurry. Save it for a time when you have a few minutes to spare, a chance to sit down in a nice chair, a glass of something at your side, and just... start... to... dream...

This latest book from Donna Hay is not a thing for rushing, but it is a work for contemplation, a chance to consider food and hopefully a precursor to a pleasant evening or two in nice company.

Looking at seasonal ingredients and how they can be combined together, this is really a recipe book hidden

inside a sort-of inspirational lifestyle book. Camouflaged between lots of wonderful pictures that could look great framed on your wall, the author entices you in to her world, helps tune you in to her mindset and lets your tastebuds determine your destiny. This might sound a bit of pretentious twaddle but here the author and her publisher's team of talented designers have really managed to make a true fusion between a practical, good recipe book and an inspirational, aspirational lifestyle book. A sort of marriage for practical food-lovers made in heaven?

From the very first page to the very last page the reader is left nearly in a suspended dreamworld. Yet there is nothing fussy or unachievable here. Quite the contrary. The recipes, of which there are a lot, are almost an afterthought. As if placed there in a half-hearted apologetic way. Yet they are not haphazardly thrown in either. If you see the book you will understand what this means. They just sort of fade in and out. They are there when you need them but they don't get in the way either.

Taking a boring, practical approach the book needs more signposting, it needs to be easier to jump in and out, it needs an approximation of how long a recipe might take, how fattening (or not) it could be but... well.. pffff... Go and get another book if you want that! Don't rush it. Don't spoil it. Meander your way through the book, find what you want and bookmark it. Bookmark other things for later. If you absolutely must be oh-so-practical and in a bit of a rush, use the good index that sort of appears at the back.

The author gives you a lot of great recipes, stunning visuals to look at, much thought for your food (or should that be food for thought) and a reason to want to perhaps stumble into the kitchen and knock up a little dish or two. Split into the four seasons and then split further into savoury and sweet, you can find something for every tastebud. A few favourites and maybe something new and untested (for now). The recipes do seem achievable by even the most inexperienced cook - after all you are not going to be rushing these recipes are you? The recipes are concisely written but contain everything you need all in one place.

About the only real complaint, or should that be a niggle, is the binding. It keeps wanting to close the book on the reader and it does seem a shame to force the spine. Of course, in time, with lots of consultation, it will become a tired, floppy old sort of binding, holding the pages together with a relaxed sort of grip. Yet at the start it does seem a little sacrilegious to be a little rough with this gem... Unfortunately, it is not possible to give more than five YUMs (or stars) as the scale stops at five... Love at first sight and hopefully a long, lasting relationship ahead (with this book).

Seasons, written by Donna Hay and published by Hardie Grant Books. ISBN 9781742701998, 320 pages. Typical price: GBP15. YYYYYY.

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## **Jaq says**

Beautifully laid out - but what else can you expect from Donna Hay? Full of recipes - but and it's a big one for me - if it's meant to encourage us to eat in the seasons - why then isn't there more recipes to use up the

gluts you get from growing your own food? A small thing I know, but pretty important to those of us who do grow our own food.

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### **Ani says**

Gorgeous lay-out and photos, but not so stoked on the recipes.

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### **Megan says**

Wonderful recipes!

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### **Purplepaperreader says**

Beautiful book - great illustrations and the food photography is amazing. The recipes are grouped around seasonal availability and the recipes are simple, tasty and easy to prepare. There is a variety of ingredients and seasons has some nice variations on standard fare with some less common ingredients along side traditional offerings.

This book is simple and elegant - you could leave it out as a coffee table book!

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### **Naomi says**

Visually stunning photography and delicious food. I adore this book. My only criticism would be that the recipes lack detail and for an inexperienced cook, there might be some googling required!

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### **Cristaux says**

Beautiful photography.

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### **Ambur Taft says**

Amazing book - the pictures are amazing, the food looks delicious, and the quotes are pretty great as well. I also love the size and feel of the book, all around fantastic - definitely one to own.

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## **Tara says**

I've had nothing but success with the recipes in this book - and I'm someone that frequently messes up quantities, forgets ingredients and burns dishes so I'm certainly a very basic cook.

The favourites so far are the Honey Jumbles and the divine Potato, Bacon & Pea Soup.

I've also taken a stab at the Cider Roast Pork and a few others - all of them a success!

Plus who doesn't get lost in the beautiful imagery of this book?

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## **Charmaine says**

lovely

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