



The Holiday Gift Guides

by Micole

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

It's the time of year for gift giving.

Maybe in your household that means donating to a charity on behalf of a loved one, giving the gift of a culinary experience (perhaps with yours truly?!) or blessing your recipient with new spices, that ONE essential kitchen tool they're missing or a unique cookbook guaranteed to blow their mind.

Regardless, there are so many small brands, creators & causes doing the work to bring incredible, diverse flavors & the joy of cooking to ALL of our kitchens.

And that's what the holidays means to me here in the **The Kitchen**... supporting them while also supporting ourselves!

Wishing you a beautiful holiday season,

WITH LOVE FROM MY KITCHEN TO YOURS,

xo Nicole

for the

CREATIVE COOK



RAMP UP INFUSED VINEGARS

Ramp Up is creating a flavor revolution through infused vinegars made right in NYC. Their insanely cool flavors include Black Garlic, Ramp and Red Miso. Get your creative cook a sample pack for just \$25. Photo c/o Ramp Up.

ESSIE SPICE SAUCES AND SPICEBLENDS

If you want sauces & spices featuring super unique flavors, Essie Spice is your go-to. Owner Essie Bartels from Ghana makes "Vegan-Small Batch Cooking Sauces & Spiceblends from Africa with Global Flavor". Photo c/o Essie Spice.



KALUSTYAN'S GIFT CARD

Kalustyan's online store is truly a creative home cooks paradise. A gift card is a great way to give your loved one the ability to shop their insane variety of food products & spices, from the obscure to the creative.

for the

SPICE LOVER



JACOBSEN SALT CO. SALTS

They've got lots of spices in the pantry, but do they have elevated salts? Jacobsen sells fancy Sel Gris & Fleur de Sel, as well as creative salts, like Habanero, Cherrywood Smoked & Pinot Noir. Photo c/o Jacobsen Salt Co.

MAMA LAM'S MALAYSIAN HOT SAUCE

Hailing from Queens, NY this mother-daughter made Malaysian hot sauce packs serious heat & flavor through the use of shrimp paste, though an equally delicious vegan version is available! Yas, small biz! Photo c/o Mama Lam's.



CURIO SPICE CO. CURIOS SPICE CLUB

Give the gift of this monthly spice club to the person who wants to expand their collection. This woman-owned, Certified B Corp® sells ethically sourced spices that support farmers. Or a gift card works, too! Photo c/o Curio Spice Co.





for the

TOOL FANATIC



BENRINER "LITTLE BENI" JAPANESE MANDOLINE

A mandoline is a tool that takes the home cooks game up a notch. It allows you to quickly cut food at precise, even thicknesses. Just make sure to keep safety in mind and you'll be flying through prep. Photo c/o Webstaurant Store.

THERMAPEN ONE COOKING THERMOMETER

You know I *wouldn't* make a gift guide without including a thermometer and if you want to gift a fast, accurate workhorse, this is the one. Your meat & fish will never be juicier! Photo c/o ThermoPen.



ZWILLING CHEF'S KNIFE

A high quality tool every home cook needs (and many *don't* have)? A sharp chef's knife. Skip knife sets and opt for this one essential knife. Zwilling makes great chef's knives at all price points that stay sharp and are frequently on sale! Photo c/o Sur La Table.



for the

PANTRY NERD



OTTOLENGHI TEST KITCHEN: SHELF LOVE

The first chapter of this cookbook from the Ottolenghi Test Kitchen is titled, "That One Shelf in the Back of Your Pantry" - and I love it. Open the book to an index/table-of-contents detailing recipes for cans, jars, legumes & grains.

THIS LITTLE GOAT "THE CRUNCHES"

TLG is known for sauces (check those out, too) but these pre-made, seasoned crunchy toppings are truly a flavor library "GOAT" for your pantry-loving loved ones. Photo c/o TLG.



SALSAOLOGY ONE POT & SIMMER SAUCES

There is truly nothing like having a one-pot meal at the ready in your pantry. Salsaology's woman-founded line of cooking sauces are inspired by the flavors & ingredients of Mexico & make a delicious mealtime, quick. Photo c/o Salsaology.



for the

IMPACT-DRIVEN

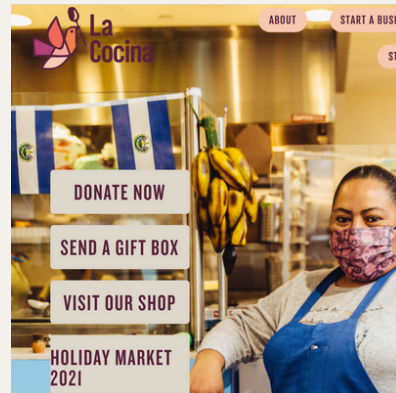


HOT BREAD KITCHEN

Hot Bread Kitchen is an incredible New York based charity that creates economic opportunity for women, immigrants, and people of color in the food industry. Dedicate your donation, or shop their local Minority-and Woman-owned Business Enterprise community.

LA COCINA

I was lucky to support La Cocina earlier this year through an event, and love their mission: to help low-income food entrepreneurs grow & formalize businesses. To support, shop businesses they've helped, donate or if you happen to be in SF, visit their Holiday Market!



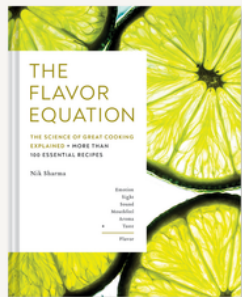
PLANTING JUSTICE

Planting Justice focuses on three incredible pillars as part of their mission: "Grow food. Grow jobs. Grow community." They give people impacted by mass incarceration & social inequities "skills & resources to cultivate food sovereignty, economic justice, and community healing."



for the

ULTIMATE FOODIE



THE FLAVOR EQUATION

Nik Sharma is a writer, photographer, and recipe developer. Oh, **and** a molecular biologist. This book breaks flavor down in an innovative and fascinating way, with recipes, graphs & science-y stuff while also touching on my favorite topic: how our emotions tap into flavor.

THE KITCHEN BY MICOLE PRIVATE COOKING CLASS

There's nothing like the gift of a culinary experience! My 1-Hour private cooking classes are perfect for couples, groups, & individuals! Whether your recipient wants to ignite their culinary intuition or just learn a new dish!



MIKUNI WILD HARVEST SPECIALTY PRODUCTS

Mikuni Harvest sells the most unique, rare foods that are also organic & sustainable. Black Garlic Molasses, wild mushrooms & truffles, Yuzu Miso, Sakura Blossom Shoyu, Bourbon Barrel Matured Maple Syrup & more. Photo c/o Food52.



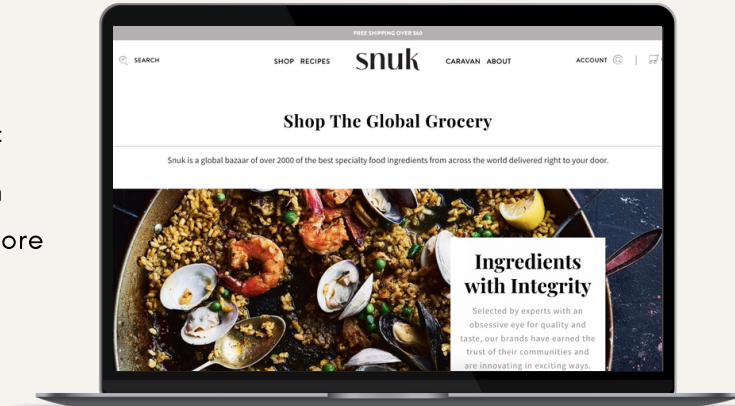
WHERE TO SHOP

In addition to these gift ideas, there are SO many great places to look for unique foodie gifts. In addition to checking out your local farmers markets & specialty groceries, here are a few more great places to go to get inspired.

SNUK FOODS

Snuk puts it best on their website: "A global bazaar of over 2,000 of the best specialty food ingredients from across the world delivered right to your door." What more could a home cook ask for?

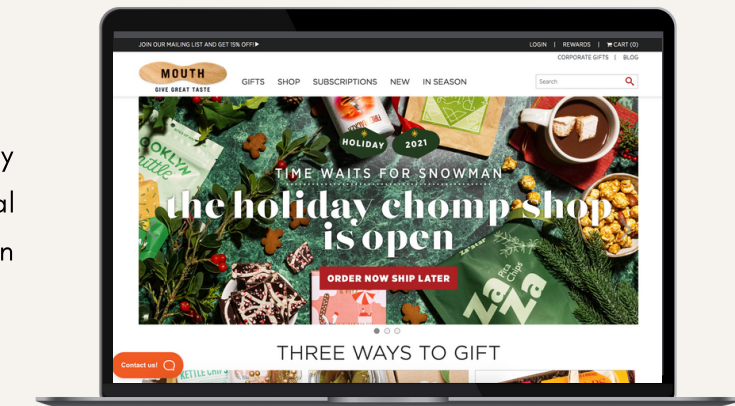
[CHECK OUT THE SHOP](#)



MOUTH FOODS

Mouth Foods has you covered for all your Flavor Library needs. This is a one-stop shop for high quality artisanal food products from makers all around the U.S. You can even "Shop By Values". We love to see it!

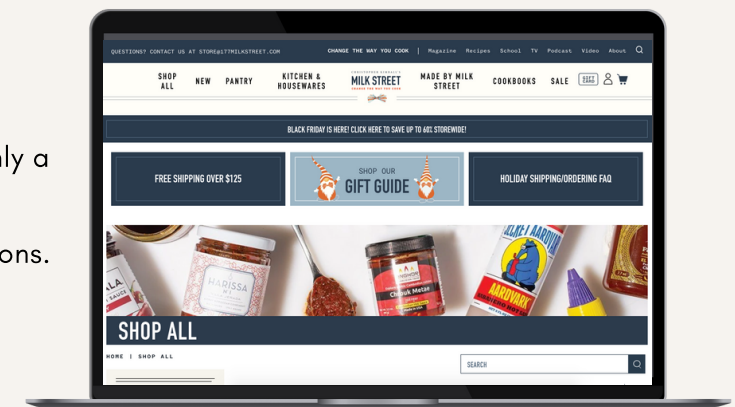
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MILK STREET

If you're not already familiar with Milk Street, it's not only a magazine and a cooking school, but an online destination for incredible, inspired Flavor Library additions.

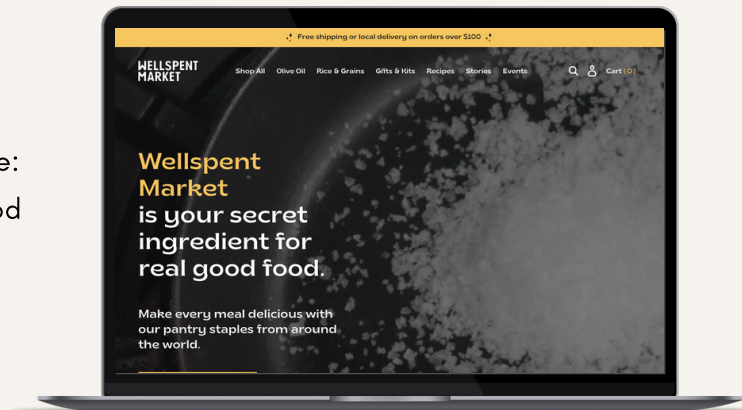
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WELLSPENT MARKET

Wellspend says it all on their homepage with this tagline: "Wellspend Market is your secret ingredient for real good food." Yup. I'm in. Are you?

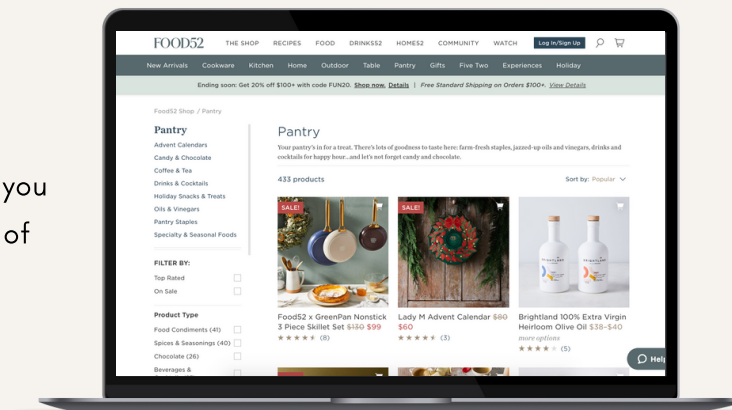
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FOOD 52

You probably know Food52 for their recipes. But what you may not know is that they have an excellent collection of spices, flavor enhancers and kitchen wares to shop!

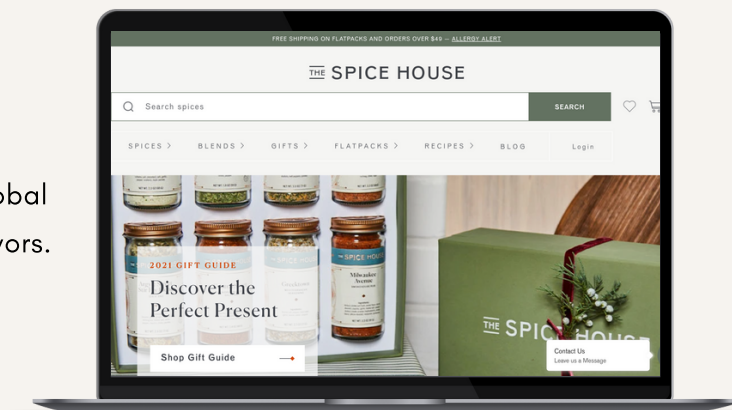
[CHECK OUT THE SHOP](#)



THE SPICE HOUSE

For spices that are truly exquisite, check out The Spice House. You can shop their spices by categories like global cuisine and specialty, so you can find just the right flavors.

[CHECK OUT THE SHOP](#)



CURIO SPICE CO

Not only is Curio Spice Co woman-owned, they are also a Certified B Corporation®, selling ethically sourced spices that support farmers. We love impact-driven gift giving.

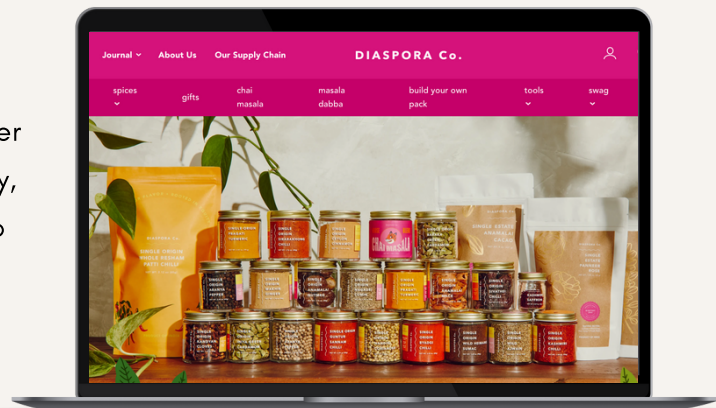
[CHECK OUT THE SHOP](#)



DIASPORA CO.

Working towards an equitable spice trade, female founder Sana Kadri sells single-origin spices of the highest quality, with a focus on paying farmers living wages, feeding into a better food system & future for the planet. YAS!!

[CHECK OUT THE SHOP](#)



SPICEWALLA

For a wide variety of ethically sourced spices and to shop curated collections or individual specialties, Spicawalla is a great online shopping option.

[CHECK OUT THE SHOP](#)

