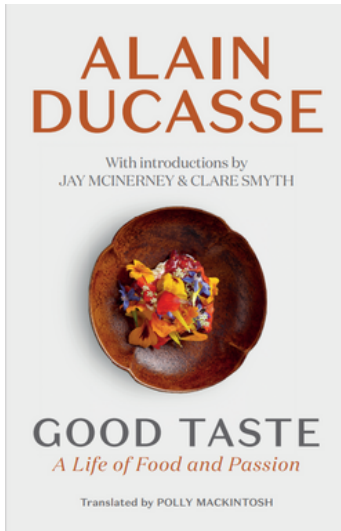


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# GOOD TASTE:

## A Life of Food and Passion by Alain Ducasse

Tr. Polly Mackintosh

With introductions by Jay McInerney & Clare Smyth

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At twelve years old, Alain Ducasse had never been to a restaurant. Less than fifteen years later, he received his first Michelin star. Today he is one of just two chefs in the world to have been awarded 21 stars altogether.

Now, for the very first time, Ducasse shares his extraordinary culinary journey with the release of his highly anticipated book, **Good Taste**. This memoir-cum-manifesto captures the essence of Ducasse's illustrious career and the core of his philosophy, inspirations and creative process.

**Good Taste** takes the reader back to his modest childhood in the French countryside, where he picked mushrooms with his grandfather and found a passion for cooking with his grandmother. We follow Ducasse's journey to becoming a chef, through tales of his apprenticeships across France and heartfelt stories of mentorship under revered chefs.

The book also serves as a poignant ode to the humble vegetable that Ducasse's cuisine seeks to elevate, explaining how his early years growing up on a farm fed into his philosophy of 'Naturality' and his connection to the land, producers and growers. This pioneering approach to a sustainable, vegetable-based style of cuisine was many years before its time.

Readers are granted exclusive access to the behind-the-scenes moments that have shaped Ducasse's life, leading him to set up groundbreaking restaurants and schools across the world. **Good Taste** also sets out his personal commitment to never stop creating and trying new things, and his vision for the future as he passes on his passion and knowledge to the next generation of chefs.

*This is not a book of memories, nor is it a book of recipes. It is a different way of sharing the emotion conjured by a meal, a dish, a taste; of defining something ineffable; of telling a story; of evoking fleeting pleasures and engraving them within us.*

Chef Alain Ducasse

*Looking back over my twenty-plus years in the kitchen, I am still learning from Chef Ducasse. He is just as inspirational to me now as he was at the beginning of my career, and I'm certain that this book, with all the knowledge it contains, will guide and inspire generations of chefs to come.*

Clare Smyth

*'This for me is the signature of Ducasse's cooking: the freshness of ingredients and the relative simplicity of presentation (if not preparation). As Walt Whitman remarked, it's incredibly difficult to achieve the appearance of effortless simplicity.'*

Jay McInerney

**For further information or to see a review copy, please contact:  
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**Alain Ducasse** is one of the most celebrated chefs of his generation and the author of several cookbooks. Born in 1956 on a farm in Les Landes, France, he went on to train with great chefs including Michel Guérard, Gaston Lenôtre, Alain Chapel and Roger Vergé. He received his first three Michelin stars in 1990 at the Louis XV restaurant in Monaco. Since then, he has set up schools, created artisan factories and opened restaurants across the world, most notably in Japan, the United States and London.

**Jay McInerney** is an American novelist, screenwriter and wine critic. His novels include *Bright Lights*, *Big City*, *Ransom*, *Story of My Life*, *Brightness Falls* and *The Last of the Savages*.

**Clare Smyth MBE** is the first and only British female chef to hold three Michelin stars. Born on a farm in Country Antrim, she moved to England at the age of sixteen, building a career that included working at Alain Ducasse's the Louis XV in Monaco and with Gordon Ramsay for thirteen years. Her first restaurant, Core, opened in London in August 2017.

**Polly Mackintosh** is an editor and translator from the French. She lives in London.

**Gallic Books** was founded in 2007 to publish the very best of French in English. They first brought readers a taste of true French reading with Muriel Barbery's *The Elegance of the Hedgehog*, the unassuming story of a Parisian apartment building that became an international bestseller. They have since expanded their catalogue to include brilliant English-language writing from all around the world. The Gallic list now comprises more than 100 works, spanning fiction, crime and noir, memoir and graphic novels.

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