

Garten to table: 'Barefoot Contessa' returns with new episodes

By Michelle Rose
TV Media

For years, we've watched and listened carefully as Ina Garten has taught us how to master everything from roasted chicken (made with garden-fresh herbs, naturally) to the cheesiest, creamiest mac and cheese.

This week, the "Barefoot Contessa" returns to share more new recipes and tips. A new season of "Barefoot Contessa: Cook Like a Pro" kicks off this Sunday, Oct. 27, on Food Network, and we can expect more great tutorials that will allow home chefs of all levels to, er, cook like a pro (hence the title).

The season premiere episode is titled "Store-Bought Is Fine," and that sums it up nicely. Garten shows us how store-bought ingredients are perfectly fine shortcuts to making party-worthy entrees and sweets. She'll prep her Raspberry Baked Alaska with Fresh Raspberry Sauce before going over the steps to

making Turkey Sandwiches with Brussels Sprouts Slaw. Garten then digs into her own pantry to put together a Sweet Red Pepper Hummus after revealing the secret to her Roasted Eggplant Parmesan: jarred marinara sauce.

It's an interesting concession after years of hearing celebrity chefs proclaim that "made from scratch" is the only way to go. Sandra Lee took a lot of flack for recipes that were heavily based on store-bought ingredients. In a pinch, I used ready-made pie dough for a big dinner once and I sat there feeling like it was a shameful, dirty little secret. But there was nothing wrong with that pie — I had become a food purist because I thought you had to be, and that isn't the right way to look at food.

Good food is good food, whether you prepare it from scratch or not. Besides, who has time to redo a batch of failed homemade mayonnaise when you literally have bigger fish

to fry? (Mind you, I still prefer home-rendered lard for savory recipes like corn tortillas. Give it a try if you have the time.)

All of that ties nicely to Garten's key message: learn the techniques, work with good food, and do it with confidence (and love). She should know — she taught herself how to cook the way many of us have, by poring over cookbooks and mastering all the pro techniques on her way to building a food empire (OK, that part still eludes me).

Today, Garten is the New York Times bestselling author of 11 cookbooks, including her most recent one, 2018's "Cook Like a Pro." And she'll soon be adding to that count: Garten is reportedly working on a memoir that will likely launch some time in 2023. But you don't have to wait that long for new ideas and stories from Garten — just tune in to new episodes of "Barefoot Contessa: Cook Like a Pro," airing Sundays on Food Network.



Ina Garten stars in "Barefoot Contessa: Cook Like a Pro"

cooking this week

WEDNESDAY

1:00 p.m.

KTNW Martha Bakes Orange curd cupcakes and brownie cupcakes are made. (CC)

OPB America's Test Kitchen From Cook's Illustrated Poached eggs; hollandaise sauce; German pancakes. (CC)

FOOD The Pioneer Woman The family is hauling hay, so Ree takes them limeade. (CC)

1:30 p.m.

FOOD The Pioneer Woman Ree prepares a rib-sticking Tex-Mex lunch. (CC)

2:00 p.m.

FOOD Guy's Grocery Games Chefs compete in three turbo-charged games. (CC)

3:00 p.m.

KVEW The Rachael Ray Show (CC)

FOOD Guy's Grocery Games Talented young chefs put their skills to the test. (CC)

4:00 p.m.

FOOD Guy's Grocery Games Three pairs of twins team up. (CC)

THURSDAY

2:00 p.m.

FOOD Beat Bobby Flay A city chef and a farm chef compete. (CC)

2:30 p.m.

FOOD Beat Bobby Flay Two tough judges from Iron Chef come to Bobby's arena. (CC)

3:00 p.m.

KVEW The Rachael Ray Show (CC)

FOOD Beat Bobby Flay Jose Adorno brings his style against chef Adam Halberg. (CC)

3:30 p.m.

FOOD Beat Bobby Flay Chef Sylvia and Chef Braden square off in a battle. (CC)

4:00 p.m.

FOOD Beat Bobby Flay Katie Lee and Laura Vitale hope to kill Bobby's record. (CC)

4:30 p.m.

FOOD Beat Bobby Flay Two chefs try to break their own losing streaks. (CC)

FRIDAY

1:30 p.m.

FOOD The Pioneer Woman Ree prepares some of the kids' favorite foods. (CC)

2:00 p.m.

FOOD Diners, Drive-Ins and Dives Guy heads to Baltimore and Mississippi. (CC)

2:30 p.m.

FOOD Diners, Drive-Ins and Dives Guy travels Route 66 for homemade biscuits and gravy. (CC)

3:00 p.m.

KVEW The Rachael Ray Show (CC)

FOOD Diners, Drive-Ins and Dives Menu includes: fried clams and lobster chow mein. (CC)

3:30 p.m.

FOOD Diners, Drive-Ins and Dives Guy checks out different varieties of BBQ. (CC)

4:00 p.m.

FOOD Diners, Drive-Ins and Dives Green mesquite smoked classics in Austin, Texas. (CC)

4:30 p.m.

FOOD Diners, Drive-Ins and Dives Guy visits three joints that do scratch cooking. (CC)

5:00 p.m.

FOOD Diners, Drive-Ins and Dives Searching the country for a taste of the South. (CC)

5:30 p.m.

FOOD Diners, Drive-Ins and Dives Guy takes in comfort foods in Chicago and Memphis. (CC)

6:00 p.m.

FOOD Diners, Drive-Ins and Dives Guy visits eateries that have a definite direction. (CC)

6:30 p.m.

FOOD Diners, Drive-Ins and Dives Guy seeks out the tastes of Europe. (CC)

7:00 p.m.

FOOD Diners, Drive-Ins and Dives Guy visits locations with heart and soul. (CC)

7:30 p.m.

FOOD Diners, Drive-Ins and Dives Guy enjoys seafood in Key West, Florida. (CC)

8:00 p.m.

FOOD Diners, Drive-Ins and Dives Guy's getting a far out taste of both coasts. (CC)

SATURDAY

2:00 p.m.

OPB Cook's Country From America's Test Kitchen Dishes include Hawaiian-style fried chicken. (CC)

2:30 p.m.

OPB Martha Bakes Martha prepares three classic 'biscuits.' (CC)

3:00 p.m.

KTNW Cook's Country From America's Test Kitchen Spice-crusted steaks and bacon burgers are made. (CC)

FOOD Halloween Cake-Off Bakers must create Halloween cakes. (CC)

3:30 p.m.

KTNW Food Over 50 A focus on the dietary challenges of 'eating outdoors.' (CC)

4:00 p.m.

FOOD Haunted Gingerbread Showdown Chefs make Beetlejuice-themed treats. (CC)

5:00 p.m.

FOOD Haunted Gingerbread Showdown Bakers create haunted theme park confections. (CC)

6:00 p.m.

OPB Confucius Was a Foodie (CC)

FOOD Haunted Gingerbread Showdown Three chefs must create a sweet Halloween party. (CC)

7:00 p.m.

KTNW The Great British Baking Show The showstopper is a bit of a mousse marathon. (CC)

FOOD Haunted Gingerbread Showdown Three champs return for the frightful finale. (CC)

8:00 p.m.

KOIN Eye on NW Wines (N) (CC)

SUNDAY

Noon

FOOD Barefoot Contessa: Back to Basics (N) Ina Garten uses ready-made ingredients.

12:30 p.m.

FOOD Barefoot Contessa: Back to Basics (N) Ina makes desserts from her hall of fame.

1:00 p.m.

FOOD The Kitchen The Kitchen is packed with tasty tricks. (CC)

6:30 p.m.

KVEW Chance of Wine (CC)

MONDAY

1:00 p.m.

OPB Cook's Country From America's Test Kitchen Pulled turkey sandwiches and fish stew are made. (CC)

1:30 p.m.

FOOD The Pioneer Woman Ree's and her sister have planned a girls' night. (CC)

3:00 p.m.

KVEW The Rachael Ray Show (CC)
FOOD Kids Halloween Baking Championship Fan favorites from 'Kids Baking Championship' are back. (CC)

4:00 p.m.

FOOD Halloween Baking Championship: Extra Spooky Eight bakers make scary skeleton desserts.

5:00 p.m.

FOOD Halloween Baking Championship: Extra Spooky The bakers create spine-chilling desserts with spirits.

6:00 p.m.

FOOD Halloween Baking Championship: Extra Spooky (N) Bakers pay tribute to the iconic Addams Family. (CC)

7:00 p.m.

FOOD Halloween Baking Championship: Extra Spooky (N) 'Mummy' issues inspire the pre-heat challenge. (CC)

8:00 p.m.

FOOD Halloween Baking Championship: Extra Spooky (N) Bakers create terrifyingly tasty grave-robbert desserts. (CC)

TUESDAY

Noon

FOOD Trisha's Southern Kitchen Trisha gathers her closest friends for a party. (CC)

12:30 p.m.

OPB Sara's Weeknight Meals (CC)

FOOD Girl Meets Farm Molly Yeh is making a Middle Eastern feast. (CC)

1:00 p.m.

KTNW Mexico: One Plate at a Time Rick is in Mexico ordering churros and hot chocolate. (CC)

OPB Food Over 50 (CC)

FOOD The Pioneer Woman Ree makes mini chocolate-pecan-caramel cheesecakes. (CC)

1:30 p.m.

FOOD The Pioneer Woman Strawberry cheesecake brownies; rosemary pound cake. (CC)

2:00 p.m.

FOOD Chopped Junior A Halloween showdown includes gory surprises. (CC)

3:00 p.m.

KVEW The Rachael Ray Show (CC)

FOOD Chopped Four female bakers attempt to clinch a victory. (CC)

4:00 p.m.

FOOD Chopped Chefs compete in three rounds of pie challenges. (CC)

5:00 p.m.

FOOD Chopped Chefs compete in a series of chocolate challenges. (CC)

6:00 p.m.

FOOD Chopped It's much ado about doughnuts in this exciting heat. (CC)

7:00 p.m.

FOOD Chopped Dessert chefs bake their way into the judges' hearts. (CC)

8:00 p.m.

FOOD Chopped The battle that shines the spotlight on ice cream. (CC)

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