Pasta

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Pasta (UK: , US: ; Italian: [?pasta]) is a type of food typically made from an unleavened dough of wheat flour mixed with water or eggs, and formed into sheets or other shapes, then cooked by boiling or baking. Pasta was originally only made with durum, although the definition has been expanded to include alternatives for a gluten-free diet, such as rice flour, or legumes such as beans or lentils. Pasta is believed to have developed independently in Italy and is a staple food of Italian cuisine, with evidence of Etruscans making pasta as early as 400 BCE in Italy.

Pastas are divided into two broad categories: dried (Italian: pasta secca) and fresh (Italian: pasta fresca). Most dried pasta is produced commercially via an extrusion process, although it can be produced at home. Fresh pasta is traditionally produced by hand, sometimes with the aid of simple machines. Fresh pastas available in grocery stores are produced commercially by large-scale machines.

Both dried and fresh pastas come in a number of shapes and varieties, with 310 specific forms known by over 1,300 documented names. In Italy, the names of specific pasta shapes or types often vary by locale. For example, the pasta form cavatelli is known by 28 different names depending upon the town and region. Common forms of pasta include long and short shapes, tubes, flat shapes or sheets, miniature shapes for soup, those meant to be filled or stuffed, and specialty or decorative shapes.

As a category in Italian cuisine, both fresh and dried pastas are classically used in one of three kinds of prepared dishes: as pasta asciutta (or pastasciutta), cooked pasta is plated and served with a complementary sauce or condiment; a second classification of pasta dishes is pasta in brodo, in which the pasta is part of a soup-type dish. A third category is pasta al forno, in which the pasta is incorporated into a dish that is subsequently baked in the oven. Pasta dishes are generally simple, but individual dishes vary in preparation. Some pasta dishes are served as a small first course or for light lunches, such as pasta salads. Other dishes may be portioned larger and used for dinner. Pasta sauces similarly may vary in taste, color and texture.

In terms of nutrition, cooked plain pasta is 31% carbohydrates (mostly starch), 6% protein and is low in fat, with moderate amounts of manganese, but pasta generally has low micronutrient content. Pasta may be enriched or fortified, or made from whole grains.

List of pasta

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There are many different varieties of pasta. They are usually sorted by size, being long (pasta lunga), short (pasta corta), stuffed (ripiena), cooked in broth (pastina), stretched (strascinati) or in dumpling-like form (gnocchi/gnocchetti). Yet, due to the variety of shapes and regional variants, "one man's gnocchetto can be another's strascinato".

Some pasta varieties are uniquely regional and not widely known; many types have different names based on region or language. For example, the cut rotelle is also called ruote in Italy and 'wagon wheels' in the United States. Manufacturers and cooks often invent new shapes of pasta, or may rename pre-existing shapes for marketing reasons.

Italian pasta names often end with the masculine plural diminutive suffixes -ini, -elli, -illi, -etti or the feminine plurals -ine, -elle, etc., all conveying the sense of 'little'; or with the augmentative suffixes -oni, -one, meaning 'large'. Other suffixes like -otti 'largish', and -acci 'rough, badly made', may also occur. In Italian, all pasta type names are plural, except lasagna.

Pasta salad

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Pasta salad, known in Italian as insalata di pasta or pasta fredda, is a dish prepared with one or more types of pasta, almost always chilled or room temperature, and most often tossed in a vinegar, oil or mayonnaise-based dressing. It is typically served as an appetiser (antipasto) or first course (primo).

Pasta (disambiguation)

Pasta may also refer to: Pasta Dioguardi, an Argentine film and TV actor Giuditta Pasta, 19th century opera singer John Pasta, a computer scientist David

Pasta is a generic term for foods made from an unleavened dough of flour and water, and sometimes a combination of egg and flour.

Pasta may also refer to:

Pasta alla Norma

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Pasta alla Norma (Italian: [?pasta alla ?n?rma]), earlier called pasta con le melanzane (lit. 'pasta with eggplant'), is a pasta dish made from eggplant. It is typical of Sicilian cuisine, from Catania in particular.

It is made of penne or other pasta with tomato sauce, covered with slices of fried eggplant and served with grated ricotta salata cheese and often basil.

It was named in honor of a native of Catania, Vincenzo Bellini, the composer of the opera Norma. It is said that the Italian writer Nino Martoglio exclaimed "This is a real 'Norma'!", meaning a masterpiece, when he tasted the dish, although the name is not attested until decades after his death.

Pasta alla Norma was named "dish of the year" by the BIT Tourism Award in 2018.

List of pasta dishes

'pasta in broth'). The various kinds of pasta are categorized as: pasta secca (dried pasta), pasta fresca (fresh pasta), pasta all'uovo (egg pasta),

Pasta is a staple food of traditional Italian cuisine, with the first reference dating to 1154 in Sicily. It is also commonly used to refer to the variety of pasta dishes. Pasta is typically a noodle traditionally made from an unleavened dough of durum wheat flour mixed with water and formed into sheets and cut, or extruded into various shapes, then cooked and served in a number of dishes. It can be made with flour from other cereals or grains, and eggs may be used instead of water.

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Both dried and fresh pastas come in a number of shapes and varieties, with 310 specific forms known by over 1,300 documented names. In Italy, the names of specific pasta shapes or types often vary by locale. For example, the pasta form cavatelli is known by 28 different names depending upon the town and region. Common forms of pasta include long and short shapes, tubes, flat shapes or sheets, miniature shapes for soup, those meant to be filled or stuffed, and specialty or decorative shapes. As a category in Italian cuisine, both fresh and dried pastas are classically used in one of three kinds of prepared dishes: as pasta asciutta (or pastasciutta), cooked pasta is plated and served with a complementary sauce or condiment; a second classification of pasta dishes is pasta in brodo, in which the pasta is part of a soup-type dish. A third category is pasta al forno, in which the pasta is incorporated into a dish that is subsequently baked in the oven. Pasta dishes are generally simple, but individual dishes vary in preparation. Some pasta dishes are served as a small first course or for light lunches, such as pasta salads. Other dishes may be portioned larger and used for dinner. Pasta sauces similarly may vary in taste, color and texture.

For example, baasto is a traditional pasta dish from Somalia, it includes a specific cooking style, and a specific sauce or condiment. There are large number of evolutions and variants of the traditional dishes. Pasta is also often used as a complementary ingredient in some soups, but these are not considered "pasta dishes" (except for the category pasta in brodo or 'pasta in broth').

The various kinds of pasta are categorized as: pasta secca (dried pasta), pasta fresca (fresh pasta), pasta all'uovo (egg pasta), pasta ripiena (filled pasta or stuffed pasta, like ravioli), gnocchi (soft dough dumplings). The cooking styles are categorized in: pasta asciutta (or pastasciutta, in which the pasta is boiled and then dressed with a complementary sauce or condiment), pasta al forno (baked pasta, in which the pasta is incorporated into a dish, along with the sauce or condiment and subsequently baked), and pasta in brodo (pasta in broth, in which the pasta is cooked and served in a broth, usually made of meat). Pasta sauces (mostly used for pasta asciutta and pasta al forno) are categorized into two broad groups: sughi rossi (red sauces, with tomatoes) and sughi bianchi (white sauces, without tomatoes).

Pasta e fagioli

Pasta e fagioli (Italian: [?pasta e ffa?d???li]; Neapolitan: pasta e fasule [?past(?) e ffa?su?l?], whence the New York City English rendering pasta fazool

Pasta e fagioli (Italian: [?pasta e ffa?d???li]; Neapolitan: pasta e fasule [?past(?) e ffa?su?l?], whence the New York City English rendering pasta fazool or pasta fasul; lit. 'pasta and beans') is an Italian pasta soup of which there are several regional variants.

Once a dish eaten by the poor, pasta e fagioli is now eaten across social classes, and considered nostalgic and healthy.

Pasta alla gricia

Pasta alla gricia is a pasta dish originating in the Lazio region of Italy. According to one hypothesis, the name of the dish derives from the Romanesco

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Pasta al pomodoro

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Pasta al pomodoro (Italian: [?pasta al pomo?d??ro]) is a pasta dish typically prepared with fresh tomatoes, extra virgin olive oil, garlic, basil, and salt. It is intended to be a quick and light dish, rather than a dish in a heavy sauce.

Spaghetti alla puttanesca

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Spaghetti alla puttanesca (Italian: [spa??etti alla putta?neska]) is a pasta dish invented in the Italian city of Naples in the mid-20th century, typically made with tomatoes, olives, capers, anchovies, garlic, peperoncino, and extra virgin olive oil.

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