

# It's Mardi Gras! Let's Celebrate!

Mardi Gras is a time to celebrate with family and friends, and this book has everything you need to make your next party a success.



## It's Mardi Gras, Let's Celebrate! by Angela Masone

★★★★☆ 4.8 out of 5

Language : English

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Inside, you'll find:

- A history of Mardi Gras
- Tips on planning a Mardi Gras party
- Recipes for traditional Mardi Gras dishes
- A guide to Mardi Gras drinks
- A playlist of Mardi Gras music
- Ideas for Mardi Gras costumes
- And much more!

Whether you're a seasoned Mardi Gras pro or a first-timer, this book will help you make your next party one to remember.

## A History of Mardi Gras

Mardi Gras is a Christian holiday that is celebrated on the Tuesday before Ash Wednesday. The holiday marks the end of the Carnival season, which is a time of feasting and merrymaking before the start of Lent.

The origins of Mardi Gras can be traced back to ancient pagan festivals that celebrated the coming of spring. Over time, these festivals were Christianized and became associated with the Catholic Church.

In the United States, Mardi Gras is most closely associated with the city of New Orleans. The first Mardi Gras celebration in New Orleans was held in 1838, and the city has been celebrating the holiday ever since.

## Tips on Planning a Mardi Gras Party

Planning a Mardi Gras party can be a lot of fun, but it can also be a lot of work. Here are a few tips to help you make your party a success:

- **Choose a theme.** A Mardi Gras theme can help you create a festive atmosphere for your party. Some popular themes include New Orleans, pirates, and clowns.
- **Send out invitations early.** Make sure your guests have plenty of time to save the date for your party.
- **Plan a menu.** Mardi Gras is a time to feast, so make sure your party menu includes plenty of delicious food. Some popular Mardi Gras dishes include gumbo, jambalaya, and king cake.
- **Stock up on drinks.** Mardi Gras is also a time to drink, so make sure you have plenty of alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages on hand.

- **Create a playlist.** Music is an essential part of any Mardi Gras celebration. Create a playlist that includes a mix of traditional Mardi Gras music and modern pop songs.
- **Decorate your home.** Mardi Gras decorations can help you create a festive atmosphere for your party. Some popular decorations include beads, masks, and streamers.

## **Recipes for Traditional Mardi Gras Dishes**

Mardi Gras is a time to feast, so make sure your party menu includes plenty of delicious food. Here are a few recipes for traditional Mardi Gras dishes:

### **Gumbo**

Ingredients:

- 1 pound andouille sausage, sliced
- 1 pound chicken, cooked and shredded
- 1 pound shrimp, peeled and deveined
- 1 pound crab meat
- 1 onion, chopped
- 1 green bell pepper, chopped
- 1 red bell pepper, chopped
- 1 celery stalk, chopped
- 1 cup flour

- 1 cup water
- 1 (28-ounce) can diced tomatoes
- 1 teaspoon dried thyme
- 1 teaspoon dried basil
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1 teaspoon black pepper

#### Instructions:

1. In a large pot, brown the sausage over medium heat. Remove the sausage from the pot and set aside.
2. Add the chicken, shrimp, crab meat, onion, green bell pepper, red bell pepper, and celery to the pot. Cook over medium heat until the vegetables are softened.
3. In a small bowl, whisk together the flour and water. Add the flour mixture to the pot and cook for 1 minute
4. Add the tomatoes, thyme, basil, salt, and black pepper to the pot. Bring to a boil, then reduce heat and simmer for 30 minutes.
5. Add the sausage back to the pot and cook for 5 minutes more.
6. Serve over rice.

## **Jambalaya**

#### Ingredients:



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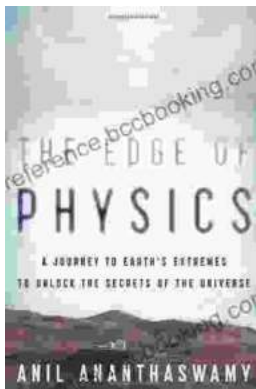
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