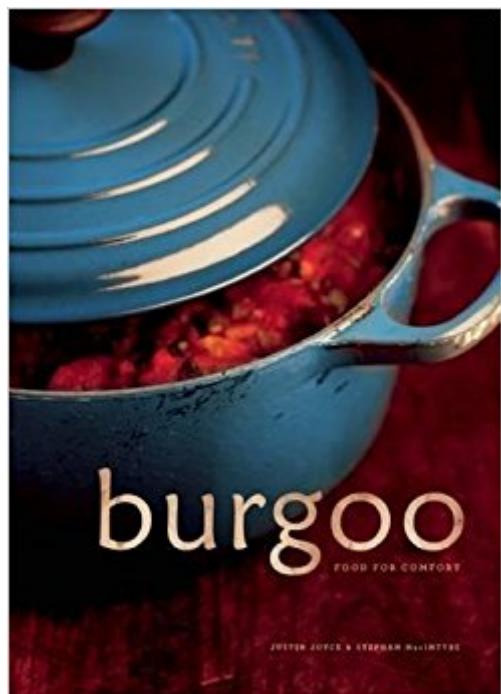


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# Burgo: Food For Comfort



## **Synopsis**

Burgoo is the name of a thick soup or stew from the American South and, historically, of a thick porridge served aboard ships. In Vancouver, Burgoo is synonymous with comfort food, served from four neighborhood bistros. When the first restaurant opened in 2001, its menu featured hearty bowls of soup and stew served in a casual, welcoming ambiance, and has since expanded with signature starters, salads, sandwiches, and desserts, many designed for sharing. From its popular Potage Grand-maman, a traditional Quebecois pea soup, to its sinfully addictive Gooey Cheesy Grillers, a British import, to its extra-garlicky Caesar, the traditional Mexican salad taken to new heights of flavor, and its fresh and fragrant lamb tagine reminiscent of Morocco, the bistro's dishes span the globe. What are common to all of them are bold flavors, generous portions and an overwhelming feeling of eating healthy, satisfying, home-style food. Now Burgoo brings its recipes to the page for the first time, introducing home cooks to delicious and easy-to-make dishes for every day or for entertaining a crowd. From dips to brunch dishes, make-ahead soups to last-minute desserts, Burgoo offers 75 unpretentious family favorites for every palate, all beautifully photographed and smartly packaged.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

Justin Joyce is the president and COO of Forehand Foods Group, better known as Burgoo Bistro and Wing Nuts Restaurants. He's launched, developed, and managed many restaurants in Vancouver, including the Funky Armadillo Cafe, Fringe Cafe, Ouisi Bistro, and Fear Itself

Seasonings and he's consulted for such multinational franchises as Boston Pizza. Stephan MacIntyre is the executive chef of Burgoo Bistro, a position he's held since the business's first day. His career in the culinary industry spans 25 years, from apprenticeships in restaurants and catering companies in Montreal to stints with high-end businesses in Vancouver, with a few restaurant gigs in between. Both live in Vancouver.

IntroductionFirst and foremost, welcome to the Burgoo Bistro cookbook. We apologize for taking so long to compile our favourite and most popular recipes, but we trust you'll forgive us once you dive into this easy-to-use guide. From the very beginning it has been the Burgoo Bistro mission to provide comfort and enjoyment to all our guests, and this book is no different. We hope you will find it a pleasure to use and, most of all, that it will deliver delicious results to share with your family, plus a couple of friends and neighbours.\*\*\* Justin & Ken & Michael & StephanA Taste of HistoryWe suspect you're wondering where the idea for Burgoo came from. The original concept was developed by one of our owners, Justin Joyce, who had previously operated other successful restaurants here in Vancouver. One of those restaurants offered Jambalaya and the Farmer's Gumbo, a roux-based chicken and prawn dish served over rice. The popularity of those two dishes prompted him to ask, what if we only served stews?For a year or so, the idea percolated, until on a trip through the Mayan Riviera, Justin and his wife, Sara, developed a more detailed menu that they literally scribbled on a paper napkin. Now, stew covers many styles of food preparation, most cultures and their cooking practices, and at that point the plan had grown to include offerings such as casseroles and fondues;essentially any one-pot meal that could be served in a bowl. Further, the bistro had been given a working name: StewArts, as in the art of making stew. With this barely legible;yet comprehensive;business plan tucked into his pocket, Justin was ready to pitch the idea. He approached two good friends, Stephan MacIntyre and Ken Carty, whom he'd met while playing Ultimate Frisbee. They loved the concept, and a partnership was born. With the team in place, the menu began to take real shape. We were intentionally moving away from fussy, vertically plated dishes that were the trend in the late 1990s toward simple, healthy and comforting foods. We embraced the idea that the humble one-pot meal is food that generations of families from all over the world have relied upon. Sharing food with family and friends has always been about comforting those you care for, and this idea seemed much more important to us than jumping aboard the latest food craze. We believed that the one-pot meal epitomized comfort food, and with that in mind we broadened our offerings to include soups. At our first location, our menu was simple: bowl foods only, served in two sizes;big and kettle. Even

our salads were served in bowls. With our menu clearly in mind, we wanted to ensure that our simple, healthy and comforting food was complemented with friendly, service-oriented staff and a warm, inviting atmosphere. This focus helped us realize that the name StewArts suddenly sounded too much about the food and not enough about our underlying philosophy of comfort. When we came across the word "burgoo" that hearty flavourful stew; and discovered that it also means the picnic or gathering at which the dish is served, we knew we had the right name for our bistro. And it didn't hurt that it's a conversation starter, since most people in Vancouver have no idea what the word means. (In fact, when people hear or read the bistro name for the first time, they assume we serve burgers. We don't.) Shortly after we agreed on the name, we added the tagline "food for comfort" to convey the idea of the whole experience being about familiarity and comfort.

**Straight-Up Tomato**

a red wine; simmered tomato soup with garlic, drizzled with extra-virgin olive oil\*\*\*This recipe is our version of good old-fashioned tomato soup. Pair it with the Gooey Cheese Grillers (page xx) to make our classic After School Special, especially when you need warmth on a rainy day. Heck, serve it with any sandwich that reminds you of when you were growing up.\*\*\*Serves 6 to 8\*\*\*2 cans (each 19 oz) diced tomatoes with juice4 cups water1/2 bottle (375 mL) of your favourite red wine8 large, ripe garden tomatoes, diced2 medium red onions, diced6 garlic cloves, chopped1/4 cup tomato paste3 tbsp brown sugar3 tbsp balsamic vinegarextra-virgin olive oilsea salt and freshly ground black pepper\*\*\*In a large, heavy pot on high heat, bring canned tomatoes and their juice, water, red wine, fresh tomatoes, onions, garlic, tomato paste, brown sugar, vinegar and a splash of olive oil to a boil. Season with sea salt and freshly ground black pepper. Reduce the heat to low and simmer for 1 hour. Remove from the heat and allow to cool slightly. Using a blender or a hand blender, purée soup until very smooth. Season to taste with more sea salt and freshly ground black pepper. Portion the soup into bowls and drizzle each serving with a few drops of olive oil.

Serve hot.\*\*

Saw this book on a cooking show. Bought it and I really like it. Glad I purchased it

I received this book awhile back and hadn't gotten around to cooking through it - or looking through it - until just about a month ago. Wow - what a book! I wish I would have brought this into my kitchen earlier. "Food for Comfort" is right! This book is filled with delicious recipes. Here are some of my favorites... "Guacamole" (page 13), "Brie Fondue" (page 20), "Crab Bisque" (page 36), "Decadent French Onion Soup" (page 41), "Straight Up Tomato" (page 50 - and the BEST tomato soup recipe

I've found), "BBQ Pulled Pork" (page 68), "Hungarian Beef Goulash" (page 85), "Macaroni and Cheese" (page 99 - and perfected with the perfect amount of cheese), "Apple Crumble" (page 112), "Chocolate Banana Bread Pudding" (page 114), "Burgoo Biscuits" (page 124) and "Potato Dumplings" (page 128). How delicious do all of those sound? Also great - the photographs! I highly recommend this book to those who want a cookbook with clean and clear directions, delicious and comforting recipes and enjoy cooking - and sharing - comfort food. You will want to try each and every recipe in this book - and I'm well on my way. (I DO suggest you get the book just for the tomato soup recipe - amazing!)

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