

one more croissant for the road

One More Croissant for the Road

Imagine waking up early, the city still waking up with you, and the aroma of freshly baked croissants filling the air. It's a moment of quiet anticipation, a promise of a delightful day ahead. This simple phrase, "one more croissant for the road," captures the essence of savoring small pleasures, especially when embarking on a journey—whether literal or metaphorical. Croissants, with their flaky layers and buttery richness, have become more than just a breakfast pastry; they symbolize comfort, tradition, and the joy of taking a moment for oneself amidst busy schedules.

In this article, we'll explore the cultural significance of croissants, their history, how to enjoy them on your travels, and tips for selecting or baking the perfect croissant to accompany you on your adventures. Whether you're a seasoned traveler, a pastry enthusiast, or someone seeking new ways to enjoy your mornings, "one more croissant for the road" is a celebration of life's small yet meaningful indulgences.

The Cultural Significance of Croissants

Origins and Historical Context

The croissant's history is a fascinating blend of culinary evolution and cultural storytelling. Though often associated with France, its roots trace back to Austria.

- **Austrian Origins:** The predecessor of the croissant is believed to be the kipferl, a crescent-shaped pastry from Austria dating back to the 13th century.
- **French Adoption:** The Viennese croissant was introduced to France in the 19th century, where it evolved into the flaky, layered pastry we cherish today.
- **Symbol of French Pastry Culture:** Over time, the croissant became a staple in French bakeries, embodying the country's dedication to pastry craftsmanship.

The croissant's journey from Austria to France reflects a rich cultural exchange, symbolizing the blending of traditions and culinary artistry.

Why Croissants Are More Than Just a Pastry

Croissants symbolize more than their delicious taste. They represent:

- A Morning Ritual: Many enjoy their croissant with coffee as a daily routine, fostering moments of mindfulness.
- A Cultural Identity: In France, bakeries (boulangeries) are community hubs, with croissants playing a central role.
- A Travel Companion: The portability and convenience make croissants ideal for picnics, breakfast on-the-go, or quick bites during journeys.

Enjoying Croissants While Traveling

Why Croissants Are the Perfect Travel Companion

When hitting the road or exploring new cities, carrying a delicious, portable snack like a croissant offers several benefits:

- Convenience: Easy to pack and eat without utensils.
- Energy Boost: Rich in carbs and fats, providing quick energy.
- Cultural Experience: Tasting local bakeries offers authentic insights into regional culinary traditions.

How to Find Quality Croissants on the Road

Not all croissants are created equal. To enjoy the best experience, consider these tips:

- Visit Local Bakeries: Small, independent bakeries often craft superior croissants compared to mass-produced options.
- Look for Freshness: Freshly baked croissants will have a flaky exterior, a light, airy interior, and a rich aroma.
- Observe the Layers: A good croissant should have visible, distinct layers—an indicator of proper lamination.
- Consider Specialty Variations: Some bakeries offer filled croissants, such as chocolate, almond, or ham and cheese, adding variety to your travel snacking.

Pairing Croissants with Beverages

Enhance your croissant experience with the right beverage:

- Classic Coffee: A rich espresso or a milky café au lait complements the buttery flavors.
- Tea: Light teas, such as chamomile or Earl Grey, add a soothing touch.
- Juice: Fresh orange juice offers a tangy contrast to the pastry's richness.

Baking the Perfect Croissant at Home

Ingredients and Tools Needed

Creating authentic croissants requires patience and technique, but the result is well worth the effort.

Ingredients:

- Bread flour (preferably high-protein)
- Unsalted butter (cold and high-quality)
- Fresh yeast or active dry yeast
- Milk
- Sugar
- Salt
- Egg wash (egg + water or milk)

Tools:

- Rolling pin
- Pastry brush
- Baking sheet
- Parchment paper
- Sharp knife or dough cutter

Step-by-Step Guide to Making Croissants

1. Prepare the Dough: Mix flour, yeast, sugar, salt, and milk to form a smooth dough. Chill for several hours.
2. Incorporate Butter: Enclose cold, flat sheets of butter within the dough through a process called lamination.
3. Fold and Roll: Perform multiple folds (typically three to four), rolling out and folding the dough to create thin layers.
4. Shape the Croissants: Cut the dough into triangles and roll tightly from the base to the tip.
5. Proof: Let shaped croissants rise until puffy.

6. Bake: Brush with egg wash and bake at high heat (around 375°F or 190°C) until golden brown.

Tips for Success

- Keep ingredients cold to achieve flaky layers.
- Use high-quality butter for authentic flavor.
- Be patient with proofing—rushing can result in dense croissants.
- Experiment with fillings or toppings for variety.

Variations and Modern Twists on the Classic Croissant

Sweet and Savory Fillings

While traditional croissants are plain or lightly glazed, modern bakeries offer exciting variations:

- Chocolate Croissants (Pain au Chocolat): Filled with dark or milk chocolate.
- Almond Croissants: Filled with almond cream and topped with sliced almonds.
- Ham and Cheese: Savory options with cured meats and cheeses.
- Fruit Fillings: Apricot, raspberry, or apple preserves.

Innovative Flavors and Dietary Options

As dietary preferences evolve, so do croissants:

- Vegan Croissants: Made with plant-based butter and milk.
- Gluten-Free Versions: Using alternative flours for those with gluten sensitivities.
- Reduced Sugar or Salt: For health-conscious consumers.

Creative Pairings and Serving Ideas

Beyond the traditional, consider serving croissants with:

- Fresh Fruits: Berries, sliced bananas, or figs.
- Cheese Platters: Complement with soft or aged cheeses.

- Breakfast Boards: Include eggs, cured meats, and spreads for a hearty start.

Conclusion: Savoring One More Croissant for the Road

The phrase “one more croissant for the road” encapsulates a universal truth: life’s pleasures are often found in simple moments. Whether you’re savoring a flaky pastry in a Parisian café, grabbing a quick breakfast before a busy day, or baking your own at home, croissants symbolize indulgence, tradition, and the joy of taking time for oneself.

Embracing the cultural history, exploring local bakeries during travels, or crafting your own croissants allows you to connect with a centuries-old culinary art. Each bite offers a taste not just of butter and flour, but of stories, craftsmanship, and the timeless pleasure of enjoying “just one more” before heading out into the world.

So next time you’re on the move, remember: never underestimate the power of a well-made croissant. It’s more than just a pastry – it’s a small act of kindness, a moment of happiness, and, of course, “one more croissant for the road.”

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the origin of the phrase 'one more croissant for the road'?

The phrase is a playful twist on the common saying 'one more for the road,' often used when having an additional drink before leaving. It humorously combines this idiom with French culture, referencing croissants, a staple French pastry.

How has 'one more croissant for the road' gained popularity on social media?

The phrase became popular through humorous memes and food blogs that celebrate French cuisine, often used to suggest indulging in a final pastry before heading out, especially during travel or brunch scenarios.

Is 'one more croissant for the road' associated with any particular travel or dining experience?

Yes, it is commonly used among travelers and food enthusiasts who want to enjoy a last pastry at a café or bakery before departing, especially in French-speaking regions or during food-themed travel experiences.

Can 'one more croissant for the road' be used metaphorically?

Absolutely. It can metaphorically refer to savoring a final pleasure or moment before moving on to the next phase, not necessarily limited to food but also to experiences or opportunities.

Are there any notable books or movies that reference 'one more croissant for the road'?

While no major works specifically reference this phrase, it has appeared in travel literature and food blogs as a charming expression of enjoying French culture, often in humorous or nostalgic contexts.

What makes croissants the perfect symbol for 'one more for the road'?

Croissants are iconic French pastries associated with breakfast, leisure, and indulgence. Their rich, flaky texture makes them a delightful treat, symbolizing a pleasurable last moment before departure.

How can I incorporate 'one more croissant for the road' into my travel or dining experience?

You can order an extra croissant at your favorite bakery or café as a farewell treat, or use the phrase humorously among friends to suggest enjoying one last pastry before leaving a place or completing a trip.

Additional Resources

One More Croissant for the Road: A Delicious Journey into the World of Pastry Perfection

When it comes to the art of pastry making, few treats evoke the same sense of comfort, sophistication, and indulgence as the humble croissant. The phrase "one more croissant for the road" encapsulates that irresistible craving for a flaky, buttery bite that can elevate any journey—be it a morning commute, an afternoon picnic, or a late-night snack. In this comprehensive exploration, we delve into the origins, preparation techniques, cultural

significance, health considerations, and the artistry behind creating the perfect croissant. Whether you're a seasoned baker or a curious connoisseur, this deep dive will leave you appreciating this iconic pastry even more.

The Origins and Cultural Significance of the Croissant

Historical Roots

The croissant's history is as rich and layered as the pastry itself. While its exact origins are subject to debate, several key points highlight its cultural journey:

- **Austrian Ancestry:** The croissant is believed to have evolved from the Austrian kipferl, a crescent-shaped pastry dating back to the 13th century. The kipferl was often made with nuts and sweet fillings, embodying a different flavor profile but sharing the crescent shape.
- **French Adoption:** The story of the croissant's transformation into a French icon is often linked to Vienna's Ottoman siege in 1683. According to legend, bakers in Vienna created the pastry to celebrate their victory, shaping it like a crescent moon as a nod to the Ottoman flag. The pastry was later popularized in France, particularly in Paris, and refined into the flaky, laminated delicacy we know today.
- **Evolution in France:** The French refined the technique, emphasizing the lamination process—alternating layers of butter and dough—to achieve the croissant's signature flakiness and airy texture. The pastry became a staple of French breakfast culture and an emblem of culinary craftsmanship.

Symbolism and Cultural Significance

- **Breakfast Staple:** In France and many European countries, croissants are synonymous with breakfast, often enjoyed with coffee or hot chocolate.
- **Culinary Art:** The craft of making a perfect croissant is considered a pinnacle of pastry artistry, demanding skill, patience, and precision.
- **Global Influence:** Today, the croissant's popularity spans continents, inspiring countless variations and adaptations, from filled croissants to savory versions.

The Art and Science of Making a Perfect Croissant

Creating a delectable croissant is both an art and a science. It requires understanding the meticulous process of lamination, dough fermentation, and baking.

Key Ingredients

- Flour: Typically, high-protein bread flour is used to develop gluten strength, which contributes to the pastry's structure.
- Butter: The cornerstone of the croissant's flakiness. Traditionally, European-style butter with high fat content is preferred.
- Yeast: For leavening, providing lift and aeration.
- Milk, Water, and Salt: To hydrate the dough and enhance flavor.
- Sugar: Adds a touch of sweetness and aids in browning.

The Lamination Process

Lamination is the process of folding and rolling dough with butter to create multiple thin layers:

1. Dough Preparation: Mix flour, water, milk, yeast, sugar, and salt until smooth.
2. Butter Block Creation: Encase cold, flattened butter in the dough to create a uniform "butter block."
3. Rolling and Folding: Roll out the dough and butter, then fold it multiple times—commonly three to four turns—creating hundreds of layers.
4. Rest Periods: Chilling the dough between folds prevents butter from melting and maintains lamination integrity.
5. Shaping: Cut into triangles, then roll into croissants, forming their iconic crescent shape.

Fermentation and Proofing

- Proper fermentation allows the dough to develop flavor and rise adequately.
- Proofing at controlled temperatures ensures the croissants expand without losing their structure.
- Over-proofing can lead to flat pastries, while under-proofing results in dense textures.

Baking Techniques

- Temperature: Typically baked at 375-400°F (190-200°C).
- Steam: Introducing steam during initial baking helps develop a shiny, crisp crust.

- Timing: Baking usually lasts 15-20 minutes, depending on oven and size.

Common Variations and Fillings

While the classic croissant is unfilled, numerous variations exist:

- Chocolate Croissants (Pain au Chocolat): Filled with high-quality dark or milk chocolate.
- Almond Croissants: Filled or topped with almond cream and sliced almonds.
- Ham and Cheese: Incorporating savory fillings for a more substantial snack.
- Fruit Fillings: Such as raspberry or apricot preserves for a sweet twist.

The Anatomy of the Perfect Croissant

Achieving the ideal croissant involves balancing several key characteristics:

- Flakiness: Multiple thin layers that separate easily, creating a light, crisp bite.
- Tenderness: The interior should be soft and airy, not dense.
- Golden Crust: A shiny, caramelized exterior that signals proper baking.
- Flavor: Rich buttery notes balanced by slight sweetness or savory fillings.
- Shape: Consistent crescent shape with even layering.

Health and Dietary Considerations

Although croissants are undeniably delicious, they are often high in calories, fats, and sugars. For health-conscious consumers or those with dietary restrictions, modifications can be made:

- Reducing Butter: Substituting part of the butter with healthier fats or using less butter.
- Whole Grain Flour: Incorporating whole wheat flour to boost fiber content.
- Portion Control: Smaller croissants or mini versions to satisfy cravings without overindulgence.
- Vegan and Gluten-Free Options: Using plant-based butter substitutes and gluten-free flours to cater to various dietary needs.

The Art of Pairing and Serving

A croissant is versatile and pairs wonderfully with various accompaniments:

- Beverages: Coffee, espresso, hot chocolate, or fresh juice.
- Spreads: Butter, jam, honey, or Nutella.
- Savory Additions: Sliced ham, cheese, or smoked salmon.

Serving suggestions include:

- Breakfast Platter: Croissants alongside fresh fruit, yogurt, and coffee.
- Picnic Delight: Packaged with a selection of cheeses, cold cuts, and fresh vegetables.
- Afternoon Tea: Served with a variety of teas and delicate finger sandwiches.

Where to Find the Best Croissants

While many bakeries promise authentic croissants, quality varies. To find the best:

- Look for Freshness: Croissants are best enjoyed soon after baking.
- Check for Flakiness and Color: They should be golden-brown and flaky.
- Seek Artisanal Bakeries: Small, dedicated bakeries often produce superior croissants compared to mass-produced ones.
- Try Making Your Own: Nothing beats the satisfaction and freshness of homemade croissants.

DIY: How to Make Your Own Croissants at Home

For enthusiasts eager to craft their own, here's a simplified overview:

1. Gather Ingredients: High-quality flour, butter, yeast, milk, sugar, salt.
2. Prepare Dough and Butter Block: Follow detailed lamination procedures.
3. Perform Folding and Resting: Repeat folds, chilling between.
4. Shape and Proof: Cut into triangles, roll, proof.
5. Bake: With steam, until golden brown.
6. Enjoy Fresh: Best consumed on the day of baking for optimal flakiness.

Conclusion: One More Croissant for the Road

The phrase "one more croissant for the road" perfectly captures the irresistible allure of this pastry. Its history, craftsmanship, and cultural significance elevate it beyond mere sustenance—it's an experience, a moment of indulgence, and a testament to culinary artistry. Whether enjoyed at a bustling Parisian café or baked fresh in your own kitchen, the croissant remains a symbol of comfort, elegance, and craftsmanship.

Investing time and patience in making or selecting quality croissants ensures each bite delivers the flaky, buttery perfection that has captivated taste buds worldwide. So next time you find yourself craving "one more croissant for the road," remember that you're not just indulging in a pastry—you're partaking in a centuries-old tradition that celebrates the joy of culinary excellence.

Bon appétit!

One More Croissant For The Road

one more croissant for the road: One More Croissant for the Road Felicity Cloake, 2019-06-13 'Joyful, life-affirming, greedy. I loved it' - DIANA HENRY 'Whether you are an avid cyclist, a Francophile, a greedy gut, or simply an appreciator of impeccable writing - this book will get you hooked' - YOTAM OTTOLENGHI

one more croissant for the road: Writers' & Artists' Yearbook 2025 Bloomsbury Publishing, 2024-08-29 'What is your best investment? Buying a copy of the Writers' & Artists' Yearbook.' Kimberley Chambers This bestselling Writers' & Artists' Yearbook contains a wealth of information on all aspects of writing and becoming a published author, plus a comprehensive directory of media contacts. Packed with practical tips, it includes expert advice from renowned authors and industry insiders on: - submitting to agents and publishers - writing non-fiction and fiction across different genres and formats - poetry, plays, broadcast media and illustration - marketing and self-publishing - legal and financial information - writing prizes and festivals. Revised and updated annually, the Yearbook includes thousands of industry contacts and over 80 articles from writers of all forms and genres, including award-winning novelists, poets and playwrights, scriptwriters for TV, radio and videogames. If you want to find a literary or illustration agent or publisher, would like to self-publish or to crowdfund your creative idea then this Yearbook will help you. New content for this edition includes articles on If at first you don't succeed ... by Jessica Irena Smith, The importance of story development by Greg Mosse, Writing for readers by Rachel McLean, Creating a poetry comic by Chrissy Williams, Ghosting: writing other people's stories by Gillian Stern, Romantic motifs by Sue Moorcroft, How a publicist can help you by Hannah Hargrave, Writing across forms by Rob Gittins, Pitching your travel ideas by Jen & Sim Benson, The hybrid author by Simon McLeave. 'The wealth of information is staggering.' The Times

one more croissant for the road: Writers' & Artists' Yearbook 2024 Bloomsbury Publishing, 2023-07-20 'WAYB remains an indispensable companion for anyone seriously committed to the profession of author, whether full-time or part-time; and as always it is particularly valued by those who are setting out hopefully on that vocational path.' - David Lodge Revised and updated annually, this bestselling guide includes over 3,500 industry contacts across 12 sections and 80 plus articles

from writers across all forms and genres, including award-winning novelists, poets, screenwriters and bloggers. The Yearbook provides up-to-date advice, practical information and inspiration for writers at every stage of their writing and publishing journey. If you want to find a literary or illustration agent or publisher, would like to self-publish or crowdfund your creative idea then this Yearbook will help you. As well as sections on publishers and agents, newspapers and magazines, illustration and photography, theatre and screen, there is a wealth of detail on the legal and financial aspects of being a writer or illustrator. Additional articles, free advice, events information and editorial services at www.writersandartists.co.uk

one more croissant for the road: Writers' & Artists' Yearbook 2023 Bloomsbury Publishing, 2022-07-21 'A definitive guide, in here you'll find everything you need' S. J. Watson With over 4,000 industry contacts and over eighty articles from a wide range of leading authors and publishing industry professionals, the latest edition of this bestselling Yearbook is packed with all of the practical information, inspiration and guidance you need at every stage of your writing and publishing journey. Designed for authors and illustrators across all genres and markets, it is relevant for those looking for a traditional, hybrid or self-publishing route to publication; writers of fiction and non-fiction, poets and playwrights, writers for TV, radio and videogames. If you want to find a literary or illustration agent or publisher, would like to self-publish or crowdfund your creative idea then this Yearbook will help you. As well as sections on publishers and agents, newspapers and magazines, illustration and photography, theatre and screen, there is a wealth of detail on the legal and financial aspects of being a writer or illustrator. Includes advice from writers such as Peter James, Cathy Rentzenbrink, S.J. Watson, Kerry Hudson, and Samantha Shannon. Additional articles, free advice, events information and editorial services at www.writersandartists.co.uk

one more croissant for the road: *Pragmatics and Translation* Miriam A. Locher, Daria Dayter, Thomas C. Messerli, 2023-09-15 This volume presents innovative research on the interface between pragmatics and translation. Taking a broad understanding of translation, papers are presented in four different parts. Part I focuses on interpreting; Part II centers on the translation of fictional and non-fictional texts and spaces; Part III discusses audiovisual translation; and Part IV explores translation in a wider context that includes transforming senses and action into language. The issues that transpire as worth exploring in these areas are mediality and multi-modality, interpersonal pragmatics, close and approximate renditions, interpretese and translationese, participation structures and the negotiation of discourses and power.

one more croissant for the road: *Fishes with Funny French Names* Debra Kelly, 2021-12-02 This book tells the story of what happens when an essentially Parisian institution travels and establishes itself in its neighbour's capital city, bringing with it French food culture and culinary practices. The arrival and evolution of the French restaurant in the British capital is a tale of culinary and cultural exchange and of continuity and change in the development of London's dining-out culture. Although the main character of this story is the French restaurant, this cultural history also necessarily engages with the people who produce, purvey, purchase and consume that food culture, in many different ways and in many different settings, in London over a period of some one hundred and fifty years. British references to France and to the French are littered with associations with food, whether it is desired, rejected, admired, loathed, envied, disdained, from the status of haute cuisine and the restaurants and chefs associated with it to contemporary concerns about food poverty and food waste, to dietary habits and the politicisation of food, and at every level in between. However, thinking about the place of the French restaurant in London restaurant and food culture over a long time span, in many and varied places and spaces in the capital, creates a more nuanced picture than that which may at first seem obvious.

one more croissant for the road: *A Beachfront Bakery Cozy Mystery Bundle (Books 1-6)* Fiona Grace, 2022-04-05 A complete bundle of books 1-6 in Fiona Grace's BEACHFRONT BAKERY cozy Mystery series by bestselling author Fiona Grace, author of *Murder in the Manor*, a #1 Bestseller with over 100 five-star reviews Allison Sweet, 34, a sous chef in Los Angeles, has had it up to here with demeaning customers, her demanding boss, and her failed love life. After a shocking incident,

she realizes the time has come to start life fresh and follow her lifelong dream of moving to a small town and opening a bakery of her own. When Allison spots a charming, vacant storefront on the boardwalk near Venice, she wonders if she could really start life anew. Feeling like it's a sign, and a time to take a chance in life, she goes for it. Yet Allison did not anticipate the wild ride ahead of her: the boardwalk, filled with fun and outrageous characters, is pulsing with life, from the Italian pizzeria owners on either side of her who vie for her affection, to the fortune tellers and scheming rival bakery owner nearby. Allison yearns to just focus on her delicious new pastry recipes and keep her struggling bakery afloat—but when a murder occurs right near her shop, everything changes. Implicated, her entire future at stake, Allison has no choice but to investigate to clear her name. As an orphaned dog wanders into her life, a devoted new sidekick with a knack for solving mysteries, she starts her search. Will they find the killer? And can her struggling bakery survive? A hilarious cozy mystery series, packed with twists, turns, romance, travel, food and unexpected adventure, the BEACHFRONT BAKERY series will keep you laughing and turning pages late into the night as you fall in love with an endearing new character who will capture your heart.

one more croissant for the road: A Beachfront Bakery Cozy Mystery Bundle (Books 1 and 2) Fiona Grace, 2021-03-26 A bundle of books #1 (A KILLER CUPCAKE) and #2 (A MURDEROUS MACARON) in Fiona Grace's Beachfront Bakery cozy mystery series. This bundle offers books one and two in one convenient file, with over 150,000 words of reading. In A KILLER CUPCAKE (Book #1), Allison Sweet, 34, a sous chef in Los Angeles, has had it up to here with demeaning customers, her demanding boss, and her failed love life. After a shocking incident, she realizes the time has come to start life fresh and follow her lifelong dream of moving to a small town and opening a bakery of her own. When Allison spots a charming, vacant storefront on the boardwalk near Venice, she wonders if she could really start life anew. Feeling like it's a sign, and a time to take a chance in life, she goes for it. Yet Allison did not anticipate the wild ride ahead of her: the boardwalk, filled with fun and outrageous characters, is pulsing with life, from the Italian pizzeria owners on either side of her who vie for her affection, to the fortune tellers and scheming rival bakery owner nearby. Allison yearns to just focus on her delicious new pastry recipes and keep her struggling bakery afloat—but when a murder occurs right near her shop, everything changes. Implicated, her entire future at stake, Allison has no choice but to investigate to clear her name. As an orphaned dog wanders into her life, a devoted new sidekick with a knack for solving mysteries, she starts her search. Will they find the killer? And can her struggling bakery survive? In A MURDEROUS MACARON (Book #2), a rude tourist dies after eating his way up and down the boardwalk, and all eyes fall on Allison, as the police blame her new macarons. The macarons have a secret ingredient that is so delicious it has customers lining up and down the boardwalk—but they are not, she knows, the cause of death. Allison, forced to clear her name and salvage her customers, has no choice but to retrace the victim's foodie trek up and down the boardwalk, and to figure out what he ate—or who he insulted—that could have gotten him killed. With her beloved dog at her side, it is a race against time to crack the mystery and solve the crime before she loses her bakery—and her budding romance—for good. A hilarious cozy mystery series, packed with twists, turns, romance, travel, food and unexpected adventure, the BEACHFRONT BAKERY series will keep you laughing and turning pages late into the night as you fall in love with an endearing new character who will capture your heart. Books #3-#6 are also available!

one more croissant for the road: Beachfront Bakery: A Killer Cupcake (A Beachfront Bakery Cozy Mystery—Book 1) Fiona Grace, 2020-11-24 Very entertaining. I highly recommend this book to the permanent library of any reader that appreciates a very well written mystery, with some twists and an intelligent plot. You will not be disappointed. Excellent way to spend a cold weekend! --Books and Movie Reviews, Roberto Mattos (regarding Murder in the Manor) BEACHFRONT BAKERY: A KILLER CUPCAKE is the debut novel in a charming and hilarious new cozy mystery series by #1 bestselling author Fiona Grace, whose bestselling Murder in the Manor (A Lacey Doyle Cozy Mystery) has nearly 200 five star reviews. Allison Sweet, 34, a sous chef in Los Angeles, has had it up to here with demeaning customers, her demanding boss, and her failed love

life. After a shocking incident, she realizes the time has come to start life fresh and follow her lifelong dream of moving to a small town and opening a bakery of her own. When Allison spots a charming, vacant storefront on the boardwalk near Venice, she wonders if she could really start life anew. Feeling like it's a sign, and a time to take a chance in life, she goes for it. Yet Allison did not anticipate the wild ride ahead of her: the boardwalk, filled with fun and outrageous characters, is pulsing with life, from the Italian pizzeria owners on either side of her who vie for her affection, to the fortune tellers and scheming rival bakery owner nearby. Allison yearns to just focus on her delicious new pastry recipes and keep her struggling bakery afloat—but when a murder occurs right near her shop, everything changes. Implicated, her entire future at stake, Allison has no choice but to investigate to clear her name. As an orphaned dog wanders into her life, a devoted new sidekick with a knack for solving mysteries, she starts her search. Will they find the killer? And can her struggling bakery survive? A hilarious cozy mystery series, packed with twists, turns, romance, travel, food and unexpected adventure, the BEACHFRONT BAKERY series will keep you laughing and turning pages late into the night as you fall in love with an endearing new character who will capture your heart. Books #2 (A MURDEROUS MACAROON), #3 (A PERILOUS CAKE POP), #4 (A DEADLY DANISH), #5 (A TREACHEROUS TART), and book #6 (A CALAMITOUS COOKIE) are also available!

one more croissant for the road: Another Number for the Road CJ Verburg, 2017-05-18

The first literary rock-&-roll mystery -- with live music! The music is exhilarating, the romance is hot, and the mystery is challenging. Fast paced, smoothly written, and enjoyable . . . Highly recommended. (See full reviews below) As the journalist daughter of a New York detective, Cory Goodwin's response to her crumbling marriage is to tackle a tough investigation. Twenty years ago, lead singer Mickey Ascher of Boston's top rock-protest band, The Rind, was slaughtered in his Back Bay penthouse. Guitarist-songwriter Dan Quasi disappeared. Now Unsolved Mysteries is reopening the cold case. That poses a killer threat to Hands Across the Sea, Boston's international exchange program for upscale professionals. Cory's editor at Phases wants her to find out if their goodwill trip to a Mystery Destination, headlined by a Mystery Band, is a crock or a scoop. But what tips the scale for Cory is learning that the Mystery Destination is Paris, where she met her husband, and the Mystery Band is headed by her old crush Dan Quasi. Why would a former rock-&-roll legend, antiwar ringleader, and murder suspect choose the Eiffel Tower and EuroDisney for an off-the-radar comeback? Cory's quest for answers pits Hands Across the Sea's musical mystery tour against her own search for lost time. With drugs, sex, and long-buried grudges exploding around the band like land mines, the nostalgia trip turns frightening, then fatal. Now Cory can't escape her father's question: Who killed Mickey Ascher? Another Number for the Road includes four original songs embedded in both the print and e-book. Don't miss this intoxicating multimedia adventure!

one more croissant for the road: One More Day Shirleen Davies, 2014-06-20 One More Day Book Three, MacLarens of Fire Mountain Contemporary Romance Series “Thrillingly captivating, with psychologically sound character development, and emotionally heartfelt storytelling. Shirleen Davies is one of those rare jewels who has never disappointed.” “If you’re a reader who wants to discover an entire family of characters you can fall in love with, this is the series for you.” – Authors to Watch Cameron “Cam” Sinclair is smart, driven, and dedicated, with an easygoing temperament that belies his strong will and the personal ambitions he holds close. Besides his family, his job as head of IT at the MacLaren Cattle Company and his position as a Search and Rescue volunteer are all he needs to make him happy. At least that’s what he thinks until he meets, and is instantly drawn to, fellow SAR volunteer, Lainey Devlin. Lainey is compassionate, independent, and ready to break away from her manipulative and controlling fiancé. Just as her decision is made, she’s called into a major search and rescue effort, where once again, her path crosses with the intriguing, and much too handsome, Cam Sinclair. But Lainey’s plans are set. An opportunity to buy a flourishing preschool in northern Arizona is her chance to make a fresh start, and nothing, not even her fierce attraction to Cam Sinclair, will impede her plans. As Lainey begins to settle into her new life, an unexpected danger arises —threats from an unknown assailant—someone who doesn’t believe she

belongs in Fire Mountain. The more Lainey begins to love her new home, the greater the danger becomes. Can she accept the help and protection Cam offers while ignoring her consuming desire for him? Even if Lainey accepts her attraction to Cam, will he ever be able to come to terms with his own driving ambition and allow himself to consider a different life than the one he's always pictured? A life with the one woman who offers more than he'd ever hoped to find? Read *One More Day*, another heart-warming and romantic story of passion, love, choices, and commitment in the MacLarens of Fire Mountain Contemporary Romance series. From the Author Join Shirleen Davies' Newsletter to Receive Notice of: · New Releases · Contests · Free Reads & Sneak Peeks To sign up copy and paste this site address into your browser's address bar: <http://bit.ly/1KqhKwm>

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