

Crazy Russian Girls

NEIGHBORHOOD
BAKERY

Made from Scratch

802-442-4688

443 MAIN STREET, BENNINGTON, VT 05201



♥♥♥♥♥ WHY BAKING MEANS LOVE ♥♥♥♥♥

The kitchen has always been the center of my family's life. Mom and Dad cooked while the rest of us stood elbow to elbow chopping vegetables, drinking wine, and arguing about politics, religion, or Lady Gaga. Whenever there was a crisis, Dad solved it by marching into the kitchen. He would bang pots and pans, mutter, wave his arms in the air, and cook an enormous meal.

With the meals came stories, how Babooshka survived Stalin's forced famine, how my father spent his childhood hiding in bomb shelters, and how my mother arrived at her aunt's doorstep with a Red Cross orphan tag hanging around her neck. Their stories are the same as many immigrant families who came to this land of plenty to escape starvation and war. Babooshka hoarded bread and canned goods in her basement and when the dinner table groaned with the weight of a good meal it meant we prospered.

My most vivid childhood memories have meals at the heart of them. I remember my parents bringing home a homeless man one winter and feeding him vegetable soup. I remember my father chasing after startled bakery customers with a plastic spoon urging them to try a taste of Japanese smoked eel and a bit of Spanish shrimp. I remember thousands of Canadian Geese at Rockland Lake rising up in one hysterical squawking mass headed straight for Babooshka because she always fed them (even when it was against the law). Babooshka would wave one hand at the scolding police and say, "pffft you don't know what it is to be hungry!"

My family is compelled to feed people. Food means love. It means security. It means prosperity and comfort. That is how our little bakery was born. Out of memories of old neighborhood bakeries with rolls of string suspended from the ceiling and intoxicating smells of freshly baked bread. It came from memories of Babooshka and Mom teaching me how to cook and bake. It came from memories of teaching those same recipes to my daughters.

Last year, I met another baker who shared the same, almost obsessive, passion for baking. He had matching memories of his mom's apple pie and noisy family meals with the table piled high with steaming pots of pasta. He also believed strongly in passing the art of baking down to the next generation. On January 23, 2010, Matt and I combined all of our shared dreams, memories, and passions by opening the doors of Crazy Russian Girls Neighborhood Bakery. With the help of our talented bakers and interns, we have created a place where the kitchen is our heart, good food always means love, and we find no greater joy than sharing our baking knowledge with others.

That is why when you visit us, you will see us packed in elbow to elbow with girls and boys learning to bake or run a register or decorate a cupcake. You will see women wearing head scarves like Babooshka wore baking the recipes taught to me by my mother. You will see our children working and playing alongside us. You will see classes of young girls learning that even though production baking takes physical strength, it's not just men's work anymore.

You will smell fresh bread and taste our butter cookies, eat cakes with French buttercreams and warm sticky buns. You will see Matt's eyes light up with excitement when he tells you how he discovered the secret to making perfect rye bread. You will find pictures of Babooshka, the original crazy Russian girl, displayed on our pastry case because she knew what it was to be hungry and so taught three generations that food means love. And you might even be chased by my dad wielding his plastic tasting spoon. However you find us, Crazy Russian Girls Bakery is a taste of our homes that we are compelled to share with all of you

Please join us as we move to our new location at 443 Main St. in Bennington, just a few doors east of our original shop. We are fulfilling a dream to expand our retail shop to include comfortable seating where our customers can sit and enjoy coffee or lunch, a larger kitchen that will allow us to expand our product line and future mail-order offerings, and an office area where we can meet with prospective brides and other clients. Don't worry, we're keeping the open kitchen design that puts our bakers right on the front line where you can ask questions, talk over a recipe, or see who is baking your bread. All of us at Crazy Russian Girls Bakery are extremely grateful to the Bennington area community for embracing our products and the way we do business. We hope to see you soon.



Crazy Russian Girls

We create such a large variety of baked goods that our pastry cases are filled with something new every day! To be sure that we have baked your favorite treat, call before you visit. We love to fill special orders, especially baked goods from your heritage. This menu is merely a sample of all the surprises you will find at our bakery.

BREAD

baked fresh on premises with no dough conditioners, preservatives, or iodine.

SOME OF OUR BREADS INCLUDE:

Swedish Limpa Rye, Russian Black Rye, Challah, Seven Grain, Whole Wheat and Honey, Italian, French Baguettes, Cinnamon Raisin, Roasted Garlic & Fresh Rosemary, Green Mountain Boys Seeded Loaf, Pain au Levain, Seeded, Unseeded, or Marble Rye, Rolls to order

BREAKFAST PASTRIES

made by hand with no preservatives and no shortening

SOME OF OUR PASTRIES INCLUDE:

Authentic Scottish Scones – Cinnamon Raisin, Evan's News VT Maple Walnut, Orange Cranberry
Buttermilk and Fruit Muffins – Wild Maine Blueberry, Fresh Raspberry, Strawberry Rhubarb, VT Apple Cinnamon, Country Bumbleberry

OATMEAL & FRUIT BARS

Apricot White Chocolate, Raspberry Chocolate, VT Apple Granny

TEA BREADS

Banana with a Belgian Chocolate Swirl, Pumpkin, Pumpkin Fresh Cranberry Walnut, Zucchini Pecan, Jimmy's Lemon Sourpuss

HANDMADE CROISSANTS

made with European style butter and King Arthur Flour

SOME OF OUR CROISSANTS INCLUDE:

Butter, Almond, Pain au Chocolat, Chaussons aux Pommes, Chaussons aux Cerises

HANDMADE DANISH

VT Apple, Honey Stung Cream Cheese, Fresh Raspberry, Michigan Tart Cherry, Apricot Levkar, Battenkill River Maple Pecan Alligator (One Bite and We Gotcha), Almond Bear Claws

SAVORIES

Egg and Cheese on a Pretzel Roll or Bagel with Sausage, Bacon, or Baked Ham

Coming Soon: Savory Scones and Brioche

Crazy Russian Girls



We make our soups and specialty sandwiches the same way we bake from scratch, with no preservatives, and with local ingredients.

SOUPS

served with a slice of our home made bread

SOME OF OUR SOUP FLAVORS INCLUDE:

Lobster Bisque with a Fresh Tomato Gruyere Crostini, Mushroom, Wild Rice & Brie, Moroccan Chicken Stew, Three Bean Three Meat Chili, Chicken and Matzo Ball, Beef Burgandy Stew

SPECIALTY SANDWICHES

featuring meats we roast ourselves, our home made breads and our famous Garlic Pretzel Roll

SOME OF OUR SANDWICH OFFERINGS INCLUDE:

House Roasted Herb Rubbed Turkey – with Cranberry Hazelnut Stuffing

House Baked Ham – with a VT Maple, Mustard, and Thyme Glaze with Swiss Cheese, Fresh Greens

Tuna Salad – with Fresh Cucumber, Tomato, and Greens

Spicy Curried Chicken – with Fresh Greens and Tomato

Meme's Sunday Roasted Chicken – with Garlic Mayo, Greens, and Tomato

Roasted Veggie Panini – with Garlic Mayo and Mozzarella

Roasted Chicken Panini – with Roasted Peppers and Onions and Goat Cheese

Mexican Steak or Chicken Panini – with Chipotle Mayo and Black Bean Dressing

Roast Beast Panini – with VT Maple Horseradish Mayo and Provolone

French Roast Beef Panini – with Burgandy Wine Sauce and SautÉed Mushrooms and Onions

COOKING INSPIRED BY THE WORLD

Peasant Lunch – Homemade Potato & Cheese Pierogies, Stuffed Cabbage, Kielbasa, and Kapusta

Coming Soon: Look for weekly specials from around the globe!





Crazy Russian Girls

We bake all of our sweets with no preservatives and no shortening. We use local ingredients as much as we can. Our cakes and cupcakes are topped and filled with our luscious European buttercreams and homemade fruit fillings. Call before you visit so that we can bake your favorite treat for you!

SWEETS

SOME OF OUR SWEETS INCLUDE:

COOKIES – Better than Brad Pitt Cookie, Hotter than Angelina Jolie Cookie, Chocolate Rum Cherry PMS-Buster Cookie, Old Fashioned Oatmeal Cookie, Belgian Chocolate Chip Cookie, Peanut Butter Cookie

BABY CAKES – Chocolate Organism, Grandma Lucy's Chocolate Fudge Cake, Swiss Hazelnut Meringue

CUPCAKES – Marie Antoinette, Jimmy Carter, Audrey Hepburn, The "Ex", Raspberry Lemonade, Ebony & Ivory, Hairy Baker, Lady Gaga

BELGIAN CHOCOLATE

BROWNIES – Peanut Butter Cup, Chocolate Chip Cookie Monster, Oatmeal Fudge, Dragon's Breath

SPECIALTY CAKES

made to order with high quality ingredients

SOME OF OUR SPECIALTY CAKES INCLUDE:

Ede-Kirsch Black Forest Cake, German Chocolate, Espresso Ecstasy, Peanut Butter Chocolate, European Chocolate Torte, Raspberry Lemonade, Swiss Hazelnut

PIES

made with an all-butter flaky crust and homemade fruit fillings

SOME OF OUR PIES INCLUDE:

Wild Maine Blueberry, Michigan Tart Cherry, Vermont Apple, Cranberry Walnut, Strawberry Rhubarb, Matty's Chocolate Cream, Key Lime

HEALTHY BAKING

We believe in healthy baking. We are pleased to offer whole grain, reduced sugar, and gluten-free baked goods by special order.

CATERING

Crazy Russian Girls Bakery will be pleased to discuss all of your catering needs for office parties & lunches.

Whether it's a special dinner, a large business meeting, or some special treats for your employees, we provide only the finest food made from the freshest ingredients. Crazy Russian Girls Bakery is committed to buying local whenever possible and is pleased to support locally owned businesses and farms.

We are proud of our Russian, Ukrainian, Swiss heritage and are anxious to share these cultures through specialty baked goods and foods. If you have a longing for a holiday dish like Mama used to make or you'd simply like to experience a taste of the Old World, give us a call anytime.

**Join us on FACEBOOK or
at the Walloomsac Farmers' Market on summer Saturdays.**