

# CHOICES'



20 page holiday edition!

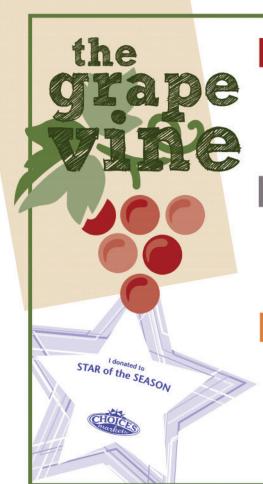
Holiday

SPECIALS

The Dish on Dates

Cheesing Up Holiday Leftovers

Donate to Star of the Season



## Happy Holidays

On behalf of the staff, management and ownership of Choices Markets, we'd like to wish all our customers and community members a happy holidays. No matter what holidays you celebrate at this most wonderful time of year, we hope that you enjoy it with health, happiness and the joy of a fantastic meal.

#### All New Online Choices

We're proud to announce that shop.choicesmarkets.com is live! Now you can click & collect on hundreds of your favourite, local, specialty and organic and holiday products at all of our locations without ever having to get out of your new reindeer pajamas! Visit shop.choicesmarkets.com to start shopping today!

#### Donate to Star of the Season

Each holiday season, Choices' holiday charity campaign kicks into high gear. From November 15th to December 24th, the cashiers at each Choices Markets location will be selling stars to raise funds for local neighbourhood houses. These neighbourhood houses are dedicated to helping those less fortunate in our communities, and this is just our way of helping to give back. To learn more, visit www.choicesmarkets.com.



# ENTER TO WIN

# Organika Gift Basket!

Courtesy of Organika

Win one of two Organika Gift Baskets Valued at \$250

Organika Health Products is a Canadian leader in quality vitamin, supplement, and functional food products.

2KIII	resting	Question:	(20	- 18) X	(25	- 13)	=	

Name:	

#### Phone Number: \_ Choices Location:

Contest open from December 1 to 31, 2021. One entry per person. All entries must have the skill testing question answered correctly to be valid. Employees of Choices Markets and their family members are not eligible. The prize must be accepted as awarded, no substitutions will be made, cash or otherwise. No cash value if prize is not claimed or used fully. Winners consent to the release of their names (and photo when applicable) by Choices Markets for publicity purposes. Entries can be dropped off at any Choices location. There can be no repeat winners for throughout 2021.

# stocking stuffers





#### Incrediwear

20%

The Incrediwear Circulation Socks relieve pain and discomfort for those suffering from poor circulatory conditions.

#### Bass

Hair Brushes



20% Off Assorted Sizes

Provides absolutely superior glide through

the hair yielding a better and more complete polishing affect for all hair types.

#### Basd Body Lotion Bundle Pack



Natural ingredients like organic aloe and organic green tea will leave you feeling soft, smooth and sexy, and like you can take on the world.



#### Aura Cacia Bath Soaks



70 grams

There's certainly emotional, mood-improving benefits to be realized from lying back in a warm tub of aromatic, relaxing bath water.

#### Mountain Sky Handcrafted Natural Bar Soaps



Mountain Sky Natural Soap offers a variety of Canadian handcrafted essential oil natural soaps, massage bars and gift packs.



## Urban Spa

Assorted Varieties

20% **O**ff

Urban Spa high performance natural products bring beauty rituals into our daily lives, and improve our impact on the planet.



## COOK IT UP



# Coconut Creamer Latte

Courtesy of withinUs™

2 scoops of withinUs™ Coconut Creamer + TruMarine® Collagen 200 ml brewed coffee 50-100 ml milk (or non-dairy milk) Cinnamon or nutmeg to taste

Optional: maple syrup or natural sweetener to taste



Add all ingredients into a blender. Blend until creamy. Enjoy!

#### Make it festive:

Add up to 5 drops of organic peppermint extract to make this a delicious peppermint latte.

# SAY CHEESE!

# Cheesing U **Holiday Classics**

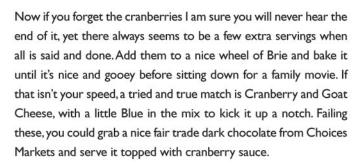
ith Christmas fast approaching we all have our own little traditions and events to get excited for. I know that speaking for my own family, there has to be a cheeseball on my mother's dinner table over the holidays, along with a hefty platter of sliced cheeses and sausages. Here's a few of my tips for making your holiday cheesier than ever.



Turkey is of course the star of many a fine family Christmas dinner but what to do with the leftovers? The leftover turkey sandwich is extra delicious if you add Havarti, Swiss or Gouda. Why not try making a pot pie with the extra gravy and a generous shaving of Parmesan or Edam? Stir in some of your surplus mash potatoes for a boost of creamy goodness. You'll be gobbling them up in no time.

A lot of holiday tables also have a roast ham. Ham loves Swiss, Jarlsberg and Cheddar both as an accompaniment for a platter or in sandwiches, but why not try making up a leftover ham grilled cheese with some strong Blue cheese or creamy Brie?

Change up your holiday yams by making a béchamel sauce with either mozzarella or goat cheese, to transform them from into a sweet and savoury take on scalloped potatoes.



What is a stocking if it doesn't have a Mandarin orange somewhere down in the toe? Christmas morning is a time when it is easy to forget to eat something healthy before diving into the snacks and candy canes so why not try slicing your orange into a wholesome bowl of cottage cheese to tide you over until the presents are done and the real feast begins?

Apples are one of the fruits that store well until deep into the winter and so they are sure to put in an appearance on your table. If yours happen to be in a pie, who can blame you? Have you tried yours with a nice slice of Cheddar on top? Apple pie and Cheddar is an east coast American classic. If you have the patience you can slice the apples and dollop a spoon of Brie on each one. Wrap them in prosciutto and top the whole thing with a good balsamic reduction.

In my books, the more places you can work cheese into a feast, the more festive it becomes and Christmas is just the excuse we are all looking for!

Whatever your family traditions are, we here at Choices Markets are always ready to help make it amazing and we wish you and yours a safe and happy holiday season.



Drew Baughman is a Red Seal Chef with over 7 years' experience in the food industry. He is a key factor in the running of the Choices Markets Kitchen. He loves great food, the outdoors and a good book.

# Seasonal Specials

Prices Effective December 1 - 24, 2021

# Delicious Holiday Choices

#### **Choices' Turkey Dinner**

with mashed potatoes, gravy, cranberry sauce, stuffing and winter root vegetables



#### **Turkey Toppers**

cranberry sauce, turkey gravy or shitake mushroom gravy



449-799

250ml-750m

#### **Side Dishes**

festive vegetable dishes, mashed potatoes, scalloped potatoes, dijon maple glazed ham & much more

29-229/100g

#### 14 Inch Christmas Wreaths



Not available at all locations. May not be exactly as shown.

2998



Live Christmas Trees

3998

18 L pot

Not available at all locations. May not be exactly as shown.



Choices' Own Christmas Stollen



799-1399<sub>225g-454g</sub>

Choices' Own Dark Fruit Cake with Marzipan or Deluxe Light Fruit Cake



Choices' Own Shortbread Cookies



Choices' Own 8 Inch Gluten-Free Pumpkin Pies



899

Choices' Own 9 Inch Apple Pies



Choices' Own 8 Inch Pecan Walnut Pies



899

Choices' Own Gluten-Free Seasoned Stuffing Mix



99 240g Choices
Turkey Stock

599
750ml



Nourish Yourself Bone Broths

Lamb Leg
Bone In Roast
from New Zealand
1 2 99/Ib
28.64/kg



Freybe Taste of Europe Sliced Meats

**499** 

Smoked Salmon Lox 2799/Ib 61.71/kg

Sockeye Salmon Nuggets
Previously Frozen



29<sup>99</sup>/lb

Marinated
Chicken Wings
made in store
799/lb
17.61/kg

Harvest Bacon



1399350







Selva Prawn Shrimp Ring with Sauce 31/40



99

## DECEMBER 1-24 ONLY

# Produce

Italian Imported Sliced Prosciutto & Salami



749-1249

Dalmatia Fig Cherry or Quince Spread





Summer Fresh Dips & Hummus



La Panzanella Crackers



649<sub>170g</sub>



Imported Swiss Emmental, Gruyere or Cave Aged Gruyere Cheese



**549-649** 

Alexis D'Portneuf Brie & Cambembert Cheese





Goat Cheese Trio with Dill, Cranberry and Almond



Baked Brie Cheese with Cranberry, Almond &



Pumpkin Seeds

Organic German Butter Potatoes



Organic Ambrosia Apples



Organic Table Carrots



**898**<sub>2.27kg bag</sub>

Organic Satsuma Mandarin Oranges



Organic Winter Squash



# DECEMBER 1-24 ONLY GROCERY

#### **Holiday Sweets!**

Wendel's Seasonal Gluten-Free **Baked Goodies** 



#### Artisan Bake Shoppe Vegan Stollen



Stollen Bites 125g

549

Walker's Shortbread Cookies



**Varieties** 

25% Off Assorted Sizes

## Ingredients for all your Baking Needs



Wholesome Sweeteners Organic Fair Trade Sugar



Bob's Red Mill **Baking Products** Select Varieties

Earth's Choice Organic earth's choice Coconut Products Assorted Sizes

**Bakers Supply House** Organic Baking Aids

Assorted Sizes



210g, Baking Powder 250g, Corn Starch 100ml, Vanilla Extract

Orchid Pure Organic Vanilla Extract

2699<sub>500ml</sub>

If You Care Bakeware Products



Select Varieties

#### Meadowvale Salted Butter



449<sub>454g</sub>



Earth's Choice Organic Extra Virgin Olive Oil



Pacific Foods Organic Broth Select Varieties

449 946ml/1L Bone Broth Not Included

## Stocking Stuffers



Green & Black's Organic Fair Trade Chocolate Bars

Panda Licorice



Efruti Fruit Juice Gummies

#### **Breakfast Specials**



Canadian Heritage Organic Maple Syrup

2 | 99



Bonne Maman Jam, Jelly and Spreads

250ml



Wedderspoon Manuka Honey Select Varieties

#### **Appy Time!**

Lesley Stowe Raincoast Crisps



Pulse Kitchen Cashew & Almond Based Cheese Alternative Spreads



100g

### Armstrong Cheddar Cheese





Dalla Terra Antipasto & Roasted Vegetables

## **Christmas Morning**



Stash Premium Tea & Holiday Tea

Select Varieties

18&20 Tea Bags



49th Parallel Whole Bean Coffee

340g

#### Works Wonders Lavender



Hydrosol & Salve

Mineral Fusion Natural Cosmetics and Nail Polish



30% Off Assorted Sizes

## Kelowna Candle Factory



**Candles** 20% Le Comptoir Aroma Diffusers and Pebble Stones



**20**%

### Now Solutions Toothpaste



181gToothpaste



Sukin Face and Body Care Kits

20%



Alaffia Hair Care & **Body Care** 

Assorted Sizes



ThinkSport

ThinkSport Water Bottles, See instore for more sizes



Sundhed Himalayan Bath Salt

Assorted Scents

La Luna "The Journey From Home" Candle Collection

assorted scents



20%

## COOK IT UP



# Lentil Walnut Mushroom Balls

By Rachelle Duckworth, RD(t) Choices Markets

Plant Based | Gluten-Free

I 540 ml can Eden brown lentils (or I can brown lentils and I tbsp. tomato paste)

2 cups Finely chopped mushrooms

I cup Toasted crushed walnuts

I cup Finely chopped kale

1/2 cup Certified gluten-free oat flour

1/2 cup Nutritional yeast

1/3 cup Dried cranberries, finely chopped

I/2 Chopped yellow onion

6 gloves Crushed and chopped garlic

2 tbsp. Cooking sherry

2 tbsp. Ground flax

2 tsp. Extra virgin olive oil

1/2 tsp. each Fresh chopped oregano, thyme, rosemary

Sea salt and black pepper to taste

Pre-heat oven to 350F.

In a large frying pan, heat pan to medium heat then add olive oil. Add mushrooms, onion and garlic. Sautee until onion is cooked through, 5-7 minutes. Add cooking sherry, kale, walnuts herbs and salt and pepper. Cook until kale has wilted, 2-3 minutes. Remove from heat.

Add mixture to a mixing bowl, mash in lentils. Add nutritional yeast, oat flour and ground flax. Stir mixture so ingredients are evenly dispersed.

Line a baking sheet with parchment paper. Roll mixture in to "bite-sized balls". Place balls on baking sheet and bake for 15 minutes. Remove from oven and flip over the balls, bake for another 10 minutes until golden brown and firm to touch.

Enjoy with a homemade cranberry sauce or spicy maple Dijon mustard.

Serves ~12 (two balls/person)





# No Guilt Over the Holidays

# By Toni Vandenbrink, Nutrition Consultant Choices on the Drive





Here are 3 mindset tips to get through the holiday season guilt-free!



#### There are no good or bad foods!

- · Food doesn't have morals, and eating certain foods doesn't make you good or bad.
- View all foods on equal grounds. Even though some may be more nutrient dense than others that doesn't mean they are better, they just serve a different purpose. Grandma's apple pie serves the purpose of providing pure bliss while enjoying each bite!



#### Food brings people together, focus on that!

· Cherish the time spent with your loved ones, and relish the moments spent sharing delicious food.

### No restriction.

- · Don't restrict any food throughout the day, so no skipping breakfast to make room for dinner!
- Listen and honor your hunger and fullness cues. If that means you feel like a slice of Grandma's apple pie for breakfast, eat apple pie for breakfast!
- · Eat slowly & sayour each delicious bite.

# Plant Based Holiday Swaps

# By Lilia Laihem, Nutrition Consultant Choices Cambie

The holiday season is a time to share your favourite foods with family and friends. If you are a plant-based eater or cooking for a plant-based eater here are some easy plant-based swaps for some favourite holiday dishes.



#### **Plant-based Proteins**

Substitute meat with tempeh, tofu, or lentils. They have similar amounts of protein per serving as meat while also containing a good amount of fiber. Holiday chili and casseroles are perfect dishes to add these protein alternatives to. Meatballs or meatloaves can be made plant-based with lentils, mushrooms, and nuts.



#### Egg Replacements

Finding plant-based egg swaps for your baking has never been easier! Choices carries products like Just Egg, which is a plant based egg replacer that contains similar amounts of protein and fat compared to a chicken egg. Alternatively, Bob's Red Mill egg replacer is a great shelf stable option. If you are looking for a scrambled egg texture, extra firm tofu can work as a great replacement with some added turmeric for colouring. A longtime favourite, two tablespoons of ground flax mixed with one tablespoon of water is a versatile option that works well in baking. Does your recipe call for egg whites? Two tablespoons of aquafaba, the leftover liquid from the can of chickpeas, can substitute for one egg white and is useful in making frostings or homemade mayonnaise!



#### **Dairy Alternatives**

Beverages such as soy, oat, pea, almond, coconut, buckwheat, and hemp, can work in many recipes as great dairy alternatives. Due to its high fat content, coconut milk works as a swap for cream in a recipe like a cheese cake along with some soaked cashews to replace the traditional cream cheese. To make your own dairy free hot chocolate try using higher fat or higher protein non-dairy milks like soy, oat or coconut to give a creamy texture. In general we recommend choosing plant-based milks that are higher in protein (ideally 8 g/cup) and are fortified with calcium and vitamin D to help you meet your daily nutrient needs!

# DECEMBER I-15th ONLY club specials

## Anita's Organic Flour

Unbleached White or Whole Wheat



Anita's Organic is committed to the highest artisan-quality grains for their BC based mill.

## Lily's Stevia Sweetened **Baking Chips**



Bold chocolate flavour, but sweetened with stevia. Perfect for holiday baking!

### Simply Organic Vanilla Extract



Regular or Non Alcohol

When you simply need the best vanilla flavour for your baking, trust Simply Organic.

#### Mary's Gluten-Free Organic Crackers



141g - 184g

These crispy crackers are amazing for holiday cheese boards, hors d'ouvres, and enjoying straight from the box.

#### Sunflower Kitchen Spreads & Dips



Healthy, energy rich snacks that make for the perfect quick snack or party dip.

#### Liberté Kefir & Greek Yogurt



Greek Yogurt, 750g

Smooth and luxuriously creamy, these yogurts are ideal in recipes and for eating by the bowlful.

### Nuts to You Organic Almond Butter



365g

With nothing but almonds in the ingredient list, this almond butter is perfect for your holiday treats.

#### St. Dalfour Jam

Artisanally crafted jams made in the French style for the perfect spread.

#### Kicking Horse Fair Trade Organic Coffee



454g

Roasted in the shadows of the epic Rocky Mountains, is it any wonder this coffee is so good?

#### Caboo Bamboo Bathroom Tissue



24 Rolls

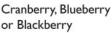
The sustainable choice for your bathroom tissue is tree-free and perfectly soft!

## Earth's Choice Organic Beans



Earth's Choice beans are packed with goodness: protein, minerals like iron, vitamins like folic acid and other antioxidants.

# Bremner's Juice



+deposit +eco fee

Bremner's juices are the perfect inspiration for your holiday cocktail menu.

# DECEMBER 16-31st ONLY club specials

#### Righteous Gelato & Sorbetto



562ml

Small batch and plant based gelato and sorbetto made with only the good stuff.

#### Coconut Bliss Organic Frozen Dessert



Coconut Bliss is ultra creamy, organic, and 100% plant-based.

### Stahlbush Island Farms Sustainable Frozen Vegetables



Picked from the fields and immediately frozen for the ultimate fresh convenience.

#### L'Ancetre Organic Cheese

Frugal, Mozzarella, or Marble



These organic Canadian made cheeses are the perfect flavourful addition to your recipes.

#### Liberté Mediterranée Yogurt



Deliciously creamy yogurts that are rich tasting enough to carry intense flavours.

#### Earth's Choice Organic Rainforest Alliance



At Earth's Choice we try to balance the demand for great tasting coffee with the desire for sustainability.

#### Barbara's Cheez Puffs



155g - 198g

A family favorite, Barbara's deliciously cheesy and crunchy cheese puffs are the snack attack you will be happy to have.

## Kettle Brand Organic Potato Chips



With dozens of deliciously crunchy flavours, Kettle Brand has a taste sensation perfect for every palate.

#### Fentimans Botanically **Brewed Craft Beverages**



4x275ml +deposit +eco fee

Elevate your holiday drinks with these delicious botanically brewed refreshments.

#### Alter Eco Organic Fair Trade Chocolate Bars & Truffles



5g/80g Bars

Alter Eco chocolate helps to restore the forest, making it a clean and green option. Perfect for stockings!



Love Good Fats Keto Friendly Bars

These keto bars are loaded with good fats from nuts and coconut.

## Lundberg Organic Thin Stackers & Organic Quinoa



Thin Stackers, 167g

Quinoa, 454g

Thin and crispy, these rice cakes are the perfect vessel for your favourite toppings and spreads.



# Are you looking for healthy variety in your diet?

Let the Choices Nutrition Team help.

Each month in our stores you'll find green labels on certain products, indicating our Dietitians' Top Choices.



It's turkey season! Choosing local this holiday season has never been easier as our turkeys are exclusively produced right in here in BC in the Similkameen Valley! Our turkeys are free range and RWA meaning no antibiotics are used throughout the animals' lifespan. Give our homemade cranberry sauce a try with your turkey this year for a truly magical holiday experence!

## Bakery

#### **Caramelized Onion Rosemary Loaf:**

Have you tried our Caramelized Onion and Rosemary Loaf? Other than its soft inside and crisp golden brown crust, rosemary steals the show. Rosemary has been gaining interest worldwide for its potential health benefits. This aromatic culinary staple is currently being research for its use in dementia prevention and possible role in skin cancer prevention. Try paring this bread with leftover turkey and cranberry sauce for a tasty leftovers sandwich, or for a plant based meal serve warm with a butter-alternative and morning tofu scramble!



#### Fresh From Produce



#### **Cranberries:**

Can anyone say holiday cranberry sauce? Instead of opting for a canned version, this year we encourage you to try making your own cranberry sauce that will be higher in nutrients like fiber. Not only is it more tasty but cranberries are also chock full of important nutrients like vitamin C, vitamin E and manganese!



We all know that vitamin C and oranges go hand and hand but do you know why vitamin C is important? Vitamin C is important for our skin health including wound healing and plays a role in immune support. Including oranges in your snacks this holiday season is one way to help ensure you are supporting your immune system!

## Tasty Top Choices Recipe





#### TANGY ORANGE CRANBERRY SAUCE

By Kelsey Moore RD, Nutrition Operations **Manager Choices** 

3 cups Fresh cranberries

I cup Fresh squeezed orange juice

½ cup Cane sugar (or maple syrup)

Orange zest I tsp

Dash Cinnamon

Bring Orange juice, sugar, orange zest and cinnamon to a boil.

Add cranberries and reduce to medium heat. Cook for 10-12 minutes or until the cranberries can be mashed easily. Once cranberries are soft, mash, stir and serve!



# DECEMBER 1-15th ONLY | wellness centre

#### Sisu Sweet Dreams



60 caps

Gentle Sisu Sweet Dreams helps restore and maintain healthy sleep patterns to bring back restful nights for body and mind.

## Havn Life Mushroom Supplements



20% Off

A blend of four mushrooms, mind is designed to help balance the immune system, fight cell damage and increase energy.

#### Boiron

Cough and Cold



**Homeopathics** 

Assorted Sizes

Homeopathic medicine used for colds and cold symptoms such as nasal congestion, sneezing, runny nose and more.

#### Echoclean Hand Soap

Peppermint Stick or Holly Wreath



A gentle yet effective hand soap, good for your whole family.



Sundhed Himalayan Salt Lamps

**20% Off** 

Assorted Sizes

Negative ions are best for cleaning the air of many allergens. At work it can help improve your concentration and refresh you, minimizing the effects of fatigue.

#### Everyone Body Care



Body Lotion, 946 ml

Everyone 3-in-1 Soaps are formulated to be used as a shower gel, shampoo, bubble bath, or a shave gel.

### Andalou Naturals & Canacell Shampoo & Conditioner



## **Buy One Get One Free**

251-304ml

Effective, natural hair care without the sulphates and silicones because you deserve it!

#### Andalou Naturals & Canacell Facial Care



Fruit Stem Cell Science® is our synergistic, super-powered antioxidant blend that energizes skin's own defense system

#### I Luv It

#### Natural Deodorant



Sensitive, 100 grams With 6 ingredients and only pure essential

oils for scent, our hand poured all natural deodorant is free from aluminums, parabens, sulphates, synthetics, toxins or nasty un wanted chemicals.

#### Divine Essence Organic Essential Oils



**25% Off** 

Assorted Sizes

Certified Organic Essential Oils sustainably sourced from family owned artisan distilleries.

## Nelson Naturals Crush and Brush Tabs



Crush & Brush Toothpaste Tablets are mess-free, convenient, portable and perfectly portioned.

#### Senza Bamboo Toothbrushes



Billions of plastic manual toothbrushes pollute landfills and oceans every year so we decided to do something about it!

# **DECEMBER 16-31st ONLY**

# wellness centre



single tablet.

Whole Earth & Sea Multi Vitamins



Whole Earth & Sea Deep Sea Minerals

### Sisu Kid's Supplements



20% **O**ff

Great-tasting, vegan multivitamin gummies that help bridge nutritional gaps for growing bodies and minds.



**Bio-K Plus Probiotics** 

Whole plants provide a broad spectrum of phytonutrients, both known and unknown, that make raw

nutrition the optimal source of nutrients. Likewise, each bioenergetic supplement from Whole Earth & Sea brings together a complex matrix of vitamins, minerals, enzymes, and phytonutrients - all in a

Our products are available in two different forms; Bio K+ Fermented Drinkable Probiotic and Bio K+ Probiotic Capsules. The choice of product is a question of taste and convenience. You can take the product you prefer since their effectiveness is the same. Indeed, both formulations have shown the same efficacy in our clinical studies.

## Sisu Full Spectrum Curcumin





Unlock the full potential of curcumin with this herbal antioxidant in a patented, water-soluble form.

#### Every Man Jack Body Care



Assorted Sizes

Made from high-quality formulas and natural ingredients. We'll make you clean. And we'll keep you feeling comfortable.

## Oneka Shampoo & Conditioner ONEKA

CONDITIONER

EVITALISANT

All our shampoos are pH balanced, color-safe, vegan, and biodegradable. For use on all hair types.

#### Natural Factors Saffron Extract



Stress-Relax Saffron Extract is a premium supplement used to support mood balance and relaxation, and to help relieve symptoms of stress.



#### Organyc Organic Cotton Feminine Care



The absorbent core made with only 100% organic cotton is highly absorbent, breathable and hypoallergenic.



Nena Facial Care

Assorted Sizes

Canadian skincare made with natural oceanic glacial clay and mineral water.

# wellness centre month long specials



**New Roots Stress & Sleep Supplements** 

2099

- · Natural treatment for day-to-day stress and chronic anxiety
- · Synergistic combination of 25 herbs, adaptogens, and B-Vitamins.
- Non-addictive and non-drowsy



### Genestra Calcium Magnesium

10% Off

Calcium and magnesium along with therapeutic dosages of vitamins A, D and K to help in the development and maintenance of bones



Genestra HMF **Probiotics** 

10%

HMFWomen's Daily was specifically designed to support the unique needs of women.

## Prairie Naturals Vitamin D3



Topical use of Vitamin D oil is recommended for a variety of skin conditions including psoriasis and skin aging due to overexposure to sunlight.

### MegaFoods Vitamin B & Vitamin C

Supplements



Assorted Sizes

Dairy, Gluten and Soy Free. Non-GMO. Glyphosate Residue Free. Vegetarian. Made with farm fresh whole foods.

#### Smart Solutions Weight Management Supplements



**20% Off** 

Glucosmart promotes healthy glucose metabolism and reduce symptoms of Polycystic Ovarian Syndrome.

#### Pure Creations Facial Care



20% Off

Pure Creations is a proud Canadian company that is family run and extremely passionate and dedicated to a natural and healthy lifestyle.

#### Weleda Skin Food Body Butter & Lotions



20%

Assorted Sizes

The ultimate moisturizer for dry, rough skin.

#### One With Nature Soap



200grams

Our soaps have a 100% vegetable base and do not include artificial colors, fragrances or animal ingredients of any kind.

## Aura Cacia Essential Oils & Body Oils



25% Off

Each Blend offers unique and pointed aromatherapy benefits. Each takes advantage of the inherent aromatherapy synergies among certain oils'.



f you could travel back in time to ancient Mesopotamia, one of the very first human civilizations, you might not recognize much compared to our modern way of life. One thing you would notice though, is dates. These ancient people farmed and harvested the sweet fruit for a variety of uses, many of which we still do today. Fresh dates contain 55% sugar, so once dried these natural sugars make dates excellent for long term unrefridgerated preservation. Plus, all that sugar sure helps them taste amazing. Is it any wonder they're one of the first fruits humans ever farmed?



Nowadays, dates have spread out beyond the fertile crescent to be farmed in sunny locales all over the world. Saudi Arabia, Iran, Egypt and Algeria account for over 60% of the world date crops. While there are over 400 varieties of dates, In North America farms mainly grow Medjool dates. This variety began in Morocco from just ten plants, but is now the variety you're most familiar with and the kind we sell in our stores. You can get fresh dates from late summer into fall, but dried dates are of course available year round.

In countries where dates are a staple you'll see them served at the table for almost every meal in one form or another. The sweet little stone fruit can be found whole, pitted or diced. Often used in baked goods, dates are a natural sweetener with a unique flavour that can be found in plenty of natural health products. Loaded with benefits like anti-oxidants and vitamins, dates are also great for boosting gut health.

So how do we enjoy these gems of the fruit world? It's easy to complement the sweetness by pairing them with other dried fruits like apricots or nuts like almonds and walnuts. They're great as an ingredient in granola bars, cookies, muesli or baked treats. This holiday season, why not include diced dates in your famous fruitcake?

But what about savory applications? Sweet and salty is the name of the game when working with dates. Stuff dates with tart goat cheese or salty feta for a delicious treat. To make them even more delicious, wrap them in prosciutto or bacon. I guarantee that will be a hit as an appetizer at your next holiday gathering. Dip them into a tahini sauce for a real Middle Eastern flair. Try them in vegetable dishes, or perhaps a grain based salad. I like the idea of mixing them into couscous with some bright lemon. If you've ever made tagine, dates are a star of these Moroccan stews.



For home brewers, you can look back to ancient Mesopotamia for inspiration. Did you know one of the first alcoholic beverages humanity ever enjoyed was date wine? Bring out a bottle of that at your holiday party and you'll have a date wine wine date!

From the bottom of my heart, I hope you have a happy holidays and see you back here in 2022 for more great stories about the foods we all love. Buon appetito!



Chef Antonio's delicious creations are made fresh and on sale every day in the Choices Deli. Pick something up today for a quick lunch or a meal for the whole family.



comments@choicesmarkets.com

/Choices Markets

/ChoicesMarkets

@ChoicesMarkets

#### Choices Markets Locations

#### Kitsilano

2627 W 16th Ave, Vancouver 604.736.0009

#### Cambie

3493 Cambie St, Vancouver 604.875.0099

#### Kerrisdale

1888 W 57th Ave, Vancouver 604.263.4600

#### Yaletown

1202 Richards St. Vancouver 604.633.2392

#### **Commercial Drive**

1045 Commercial Dr, Vancouver 604.678.9665

#### Kelowna

1937 Harvey Ave, Kelowna 250.862.4864

#### **South Surrey**

3248 King George Blvd, Surrey 604.541.3902

#### **Burnaby Crest**

8683 10th Ave, Burnaby 604.522.0936

#### Abbotsford

3033 Immel St, Abbotsford 604.744.3567

#### North Vancouver

801 Marine Dr, North Vancouver 604.770.2868

#### **Eco Audit**

Reducing our environmental impact, we chose to print our newsletters on 100% post consumer recycled fibres. Look what we saved this month:

Tree(s): 0 Waste: 1,199 kg

Water: I m3 world eq. of water

**Greenhouse Gas Emissions:** 

109 kg CO2 or 432 km driven by car + I kg NMVOC or 260 km driven by car

2 Gl or 8,164 60-W light bulbs for one hour

Results based on the Rolland Environmental Calculator

# Choices' Star of the Season Program

November 15th - December 24th



For more details on each neighbourhood house, please visit our website, www.choicesmarkets.com.

November 15th and December 24th for a donation of \$2.00.



#### All proceeds are donated to ten different organizations:

- Little Mountain Neighbourhood House
- Britannia Community Services
- Downtown Eastside Neighbourhood House
- Abbotsford Community Services
- The Bridge Youth & Family Services

