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Planet Taco: A Global History of Mexican Food (Hardback)

By Professor of History Jeffrey M Pilcher

Oxford University Press Inc, United States, 2012. Hardback. Book Condition: New. 236 x 157 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book. Planet Taco asks the question, what is authentic Mexican food? The burritos and taco shells that many people think of as Mexican were actually created in the United States, and Americanized foods have recently been carried around the world in tin cans and tourist restaurants. But the contemporary struggle between globalization and national sovereignty to determine the meaning of Mexican food is far from new. In fact, Mexican food was the product of globalization from the very beginning - the Spanish conquest - when European and Native American influences blended to forge the mestizo or mixed culture of Mexico. The historic struggle between globalization and the nation continued in the nineteenth century, as Mexicans searching for a national cuisine were torn between nostalgic Creole Hispanic dishes of the past and French haute cuisine, the global food of the day. Indigenous foods, by contrast, were considered strictly declassé. Yet another version of Mexican food was created in the U.S. Southwest by Mexican American cooks, including the Chili Queens of San Antonio and tamale vendors of Los Angeles. When Mexican American...



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