

# Festive food



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It's winter; tempt your senses and lift the spirit with festive food. These treats are perfect to serve to guests or to bestow as a host gift during the holiday season. Indulge your taste!

PHOTOS: BOTTOM LEFT, COURTESY OF THOMAS HAAS; OTHER PHOTOS BY B. SLIGL

- 1. crisps** Crunchy, all-natural, seed- and grains-laden cracker-like snacks, Lesley Stowe's popular crisps are perfect for the holiday canapé season; try on their own, with cheeses and pâté, or even crumbled up to add texture to a dish or as a delicious breading for turkey. Try the latest flavour of Raincoast Crisps, a festive combination of tart cranberries and toasty hazelnuts. Raincoast Crisps, \$6.79. Available in the Lower Mainland at Capers Community Market, various locations, or in Victoria at Food Country Victoria, 250-382-2153 or check [www.lesleystowe.com](http://www.lesleystowe.com) for locations.
- 2. cookbooks** Amp up the gourmet quotient of your holiday feast or dig into the new year with recipes and cuisine know-how from renowned local chefs and wine aficionados. With flavours from the Okanagan to the French countryside, these tasty titles are sure to please foodie friends and help you add tang to your own kitchen. *Feenie's*, \$35 (Douglas & McIntyre; [www.douglas-mcintyre.com](http://www.douglas-mcintyre.com)); *La Régalade*, \$29.95, *Chow*, \$24.95, *DiscCookery*, \$22.95, *Had a Glass*, \$19.95, *Harmony on the Palate*, \$29.95 (all Whitecap Books; [www.whitecap.ca](http://www.whitecap.ca)).
- 3. chocolate** Looking for an easy yet decadent gift? A box of Thomas Haas handmade chocolate creations — with nuts, spices, herbs, fresh fruits — or fruit gelées or truffles is sure to please. Oblong Wood Chest box, \$30. Available at Thomas Haas Fine Pastries and Desserts Ltd. or [www.thomashaas.com](http://www.thomashaas.com), 604-924-1847 or SenSes Bakery, 604-633-0138.
- 4. wine** What's the next best thing to having your own vineyard? Adopting a row of vines at the Red Rooster Winery. Give the gift of participation in a local vineyard — from visiting the vineyard and following the vines' progress to enjoying a glass of wine. Cheers! *Adopt a Row Membership* is \$285, including 12 bottles of wine, certificate, personalized row and more. Red Rooster Winery, 250-492-2424 or [www.redroosterwinery.com](http://www.redroosterwinery.com).