

Important Foods in Shkodër

Northern Albanian Dialect

Albanian transcript:

1: Persa i perket kuzhines, sepse permendet gatimin e peshkut, ndryshimin nga gatimi i lokalit ne Londer... Ne opinionin tuaj cilat jane gjellet qe jane me te preferuara dhe me kryesoret ne kuzhinen shqiptare, dhe shkodrane ndoshta?

2: Harrova te theksoj se kuzhina turke ishte edhe ne Londer. Ose dyqanet qe kishin turqit (lokale, ushqimore) iu pershtatshin shijes tone. Zarzavatet (ishin), por nuk kishin shijen, kishin formen, kishin ngjyren, por shijen qe kena na ne Shqipni nuk e kishin ata. Megjithate ne u afrueme me shijet turke. Ose, kur ishin festat e fundvitit shkueme ne nji dyqan turk ne Londer. Komplet a thue se je ne Shkoder. Me ambelcina, me bakllave, me kadaif, me haxhimakulle. Cdo gja qe, dmth, preferencat qe kishim na si shkodrane e si shqiptare, po ashtu i kishin turqit. Dmth kishim nji gershetim te shijeve... Dhe, per ca thate ma, kuzhinen shkodrane? Per kuzhinen shkodrane mbet peshku i taves i Shkodres, krap, japaku, mish jahni. Njita jane tri gjana qe... per qytetin e Shkodres. Mandej gjana te tjera ka mjaft. Nder ambelcina asht haxhimakullja.

1: Nqs ju do te kishit mysafire e do te donit t'i nderonit, keto do te ishin gjellet qe ju do te servirnit?

2: Varet edhe prej shijeve te atyne njerezve qe vijne. Se dikush e han peshkun dikush s'e han, dikush e han mishin dikush s'e han. Do t'i bajshe nji gershetim qe te mbesin te gjitha te kenaqun. Me sallate, me supe... Supa ka nji emen tjeter ne Shkoder, corbe, corbe shkodrane. Edhe ajo futet ne ate rangun e mire te gjelleve, ose ne listen e mire te gjelleve shkodrane.

English translation:

1: With regard to the cuisine, since you mentioned the way you cook fish, the difference between the way it is cooked in restaurants in London ... in your opinion what are the foods that are preferred more, and what are the most important ones in the Albanian cuisine and in Shkodër perhaps?

2: I forgot to mention that the Turkish cuisine was also in London. The stores that the Turkish had were to our taste. Even though the vegetables there looked the same, they did not have the taste that they have here in Albania. But we got close to that flavor. When the end of the year holidays came, we went to a Turkish store in London. You would think you were in Shkodër. It had sweets, *bakllave*, *kadaif* and *haxhimakulle*. Every preference that we had, the Turkish had also. We had a mix of tastes ... What else did you say about the cuisine in Shkodër? Shkodër has the fish, *japaku*, meat, *jahni*. Those

are the three most important things. There are also a lot of other things. For desserts we have the *haxhimakullja*.

1: If you had guests, to make them feel welcome, would these be the foods you would serve?

2: It also depends on the preferences that the guests might have. Someone eats fish, someone doesn't; someone eats meat, someone doesn't. I would do a mix so that everyone would be happy ... with salad, with soup. Soup has a different name in Shkodër, *corbe*, *corbe* from Shkodër. That (soup) is also in the good categories or in the list of the good foods from Shkodër.

About CultureTalk: CultureTalk is produced by the Five College Center for the Study of World Languages and housed on the LangMedia Website. The project provides students of language and culture with samples of people talking about their lives in the languages they use everyday. The participants in CultureTalk interviews and discussions are of many different ages and walks of life. They are free to express themselves as they wish. The ideas and opinions presented here are those of the participants. Inclusion in CultureTalk does not represent endorsement of these ideas or opinions by the Five College Center for the Study of World Languages, Five Colleges, Incorporated, or any of its member institutions: Amherst College, Hampshire College, Mount Holyoke College, Smith College and the University of Massachusetts at Amherst.

© 2003-2009 Five College Center for the Study of World Languages and Five Colleges, Incorporated