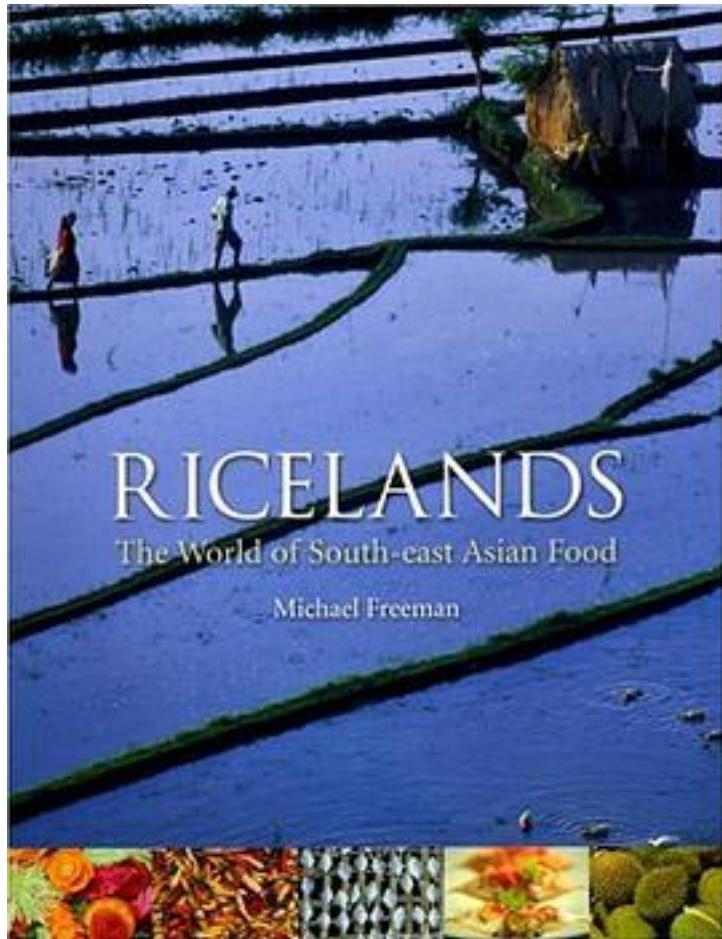


# Ricelands



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Pad thai, pho, bao: the cuisines of Southeast Asia have ardent enthusiasts far beyond their native lands, and are now among the most-consumed dishes in the world. But the familiar take-out menus and thriving storefronts rest atop a compelling history of

food, culture, and modernity. Award-winning photographer and writer Michael Freeman now offers here an all-encompassing guide to the cuisines of eight Southeast Asian countries. "Ricelands" takes the reader on a colorful and engaging tour of these popular tourist destinations through the richly layered cultures surrounding the various food traditions. Traveling across the landscapes of Thailand, Vietnam, Burma, Cambodia, Malaysia, Laos, Indonesia, and the Philippines, Freeman explores the origins of their respective cuisines, the defining characteristics of authentic dishes, and the evolution of the cuisines as they entered foreign cultures. From birds' nests gathered in Thailand's coastal caves to the less familiar dishes of Burma and Cambodia to the pungent durian fruit (and Westerners' often aghast reactions), the author unearths unexpected treasures and tantalizing facts about Southeast Asia and its social history. The book also examines the cooking techniques, complex spices, and agricultural economies that underpin the countries' food cultures, and considers how the informal nature of Southeast Asian eating fits into the rhythms of modern-day living. Vibrantly illustrated and elegantly conceived, "Ricelands" takes us into the heart of tropical Asia and the delicious foods that define it the world over.

作者介绍:

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