

What is a Parsnip?



A Parsnip is a relative of the Carrot- but while they look similar- they taste totally differently.

Parsnips are sweet, earthy, spicy and very nutty. The parsnip is versatile enough to hold up to some really bold flavors, and can be eaten raw or cooked. Before the 17th century, both parsnips and most carrots were white (though purple carrots were also available), which led to confusion. As a tribute to William of Orange for leading the Dutch to independence, a strain of orange carrots was created, and this is why most carrots are orange even today.

Parsnip History

Before cane sugar was widely available, parsnips and carrots were used as sweeteners as far back as ancient Rome (think- carrot cake!).

The parsnip was so loved that the Roman Emperor Tiberius accepted parsnips as a payment from Germany.

Today, Parsnips are commonly fed to Italian pigs to produce the famous Parma Ham.