

CELEBRATE INDEPENDENCE DAY WITH THESE CLASSIC DISHES

The Fourth of July is a day set aside to celebrate our nation's birth with friends and family. These gatherings usually include delicious food, including some traditionally American dishes that, year after year, make an appearance on Independence Day menus.

Swipe through to see if your faves are on this list of classic July Fourth dishes.



Brought to the United States by German immigrants, hot dogs quickly became an American staple, and are often served on the Fourth of July. In fact, the National Hot Dog and Sausage Council says that Americans eat about 150 million hot dogs on Independence Day. Whether served with mustard or, um, zucchini relish, hot dogs are a classic.

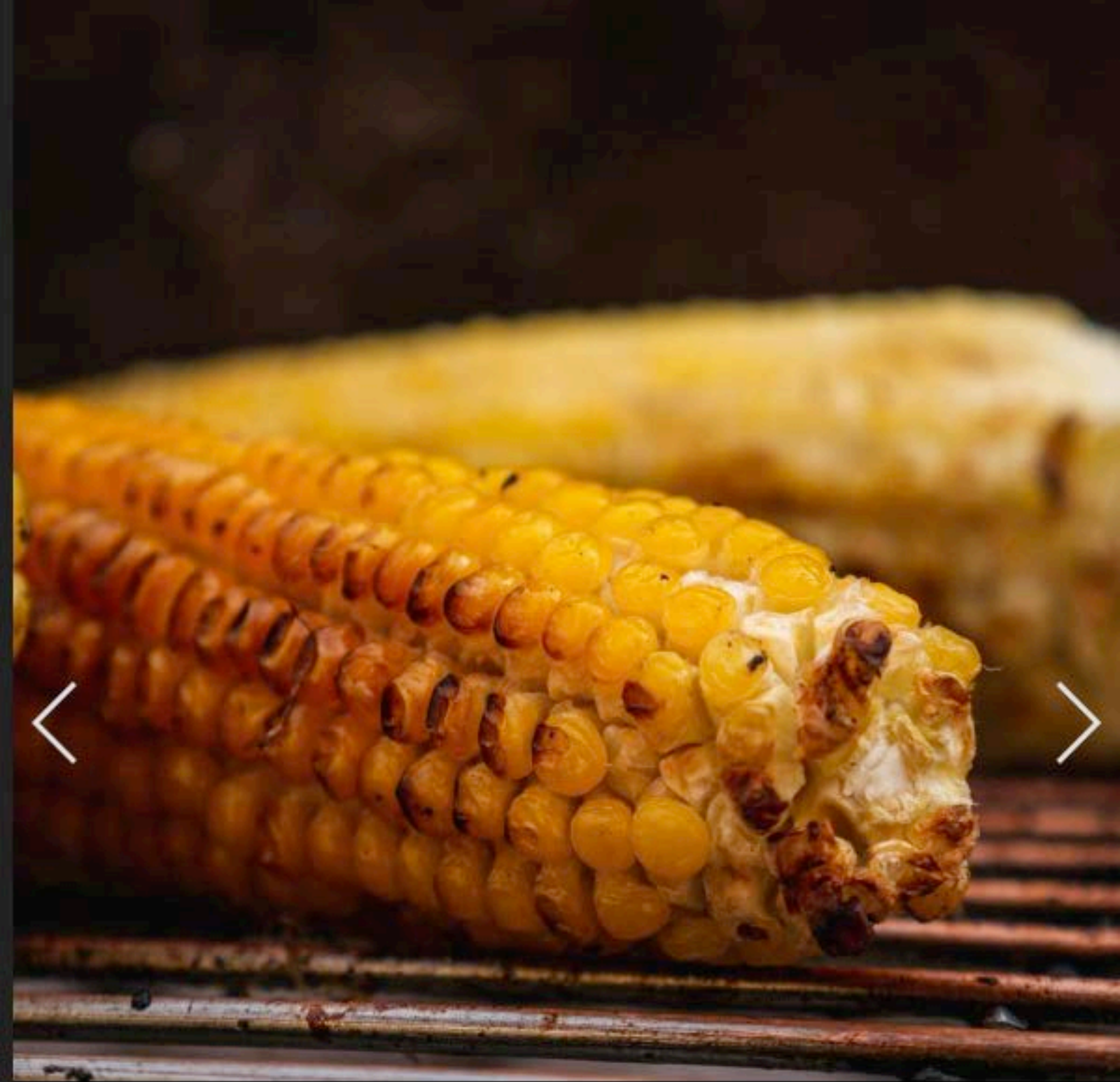


Hamburgers are another Fourth of July favorite. Piled high with all the fixin's, well-grilled burgers are almost always on the menu on Independence Day.

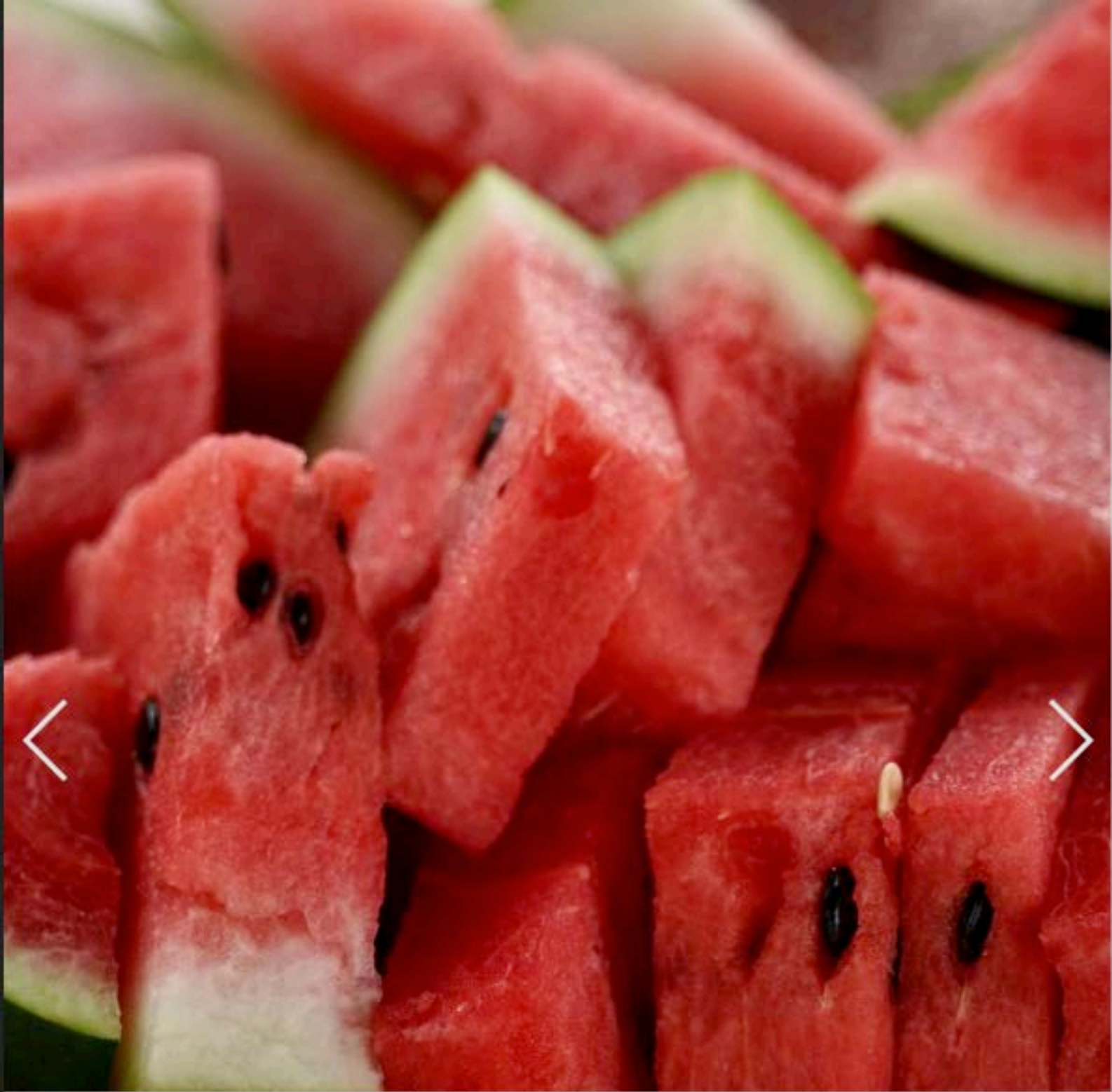


Potato salad is a beloved July Fourth side dish. And while there are as many spud salad variations as there are fireworks on Independence Day, all are welcome as a tasty addition to a traditional Fourth of July menu.





Dripping with butter, sprinkled with salt...corn on the cob is a must-have for any July Fourth menu. Plentiful and at its most flavorful in the summer months, fresh corn makes a delicious accompaniment to whatever main dishes are on the table.



Watermelon, too, almost always makes an appearance at July Fourth parties. This seasonal fruit shines in summer, and whether it's simply served wedged up, or in a fancy salad with feta, cucumber, and mint, juicy watermelon deserves a spot at the Independence day table.



We can't neglect the regional favorites that are a part of many Independence Day celebrations. In the Northeast, for example, crab cakes might be on the menu, whereas Texans like to grill up chicken fajitas. In the South, fried chicken and hushpuppies are a favorite.

At every Fourth of July gathering you've been to, there's almost certainly been some kind of clever dessert dressed up in red, white and blue. Whether it's a flag cake with strawberry stripes and a blueberry field of stars, or an elegant trifle in a glass bowl to show off patriotic fruit layers, you know some clever auntie spent hours making a patriotic dessert for her family. Or maybe she just went to the store and bought cupcakes with toothpick flags in them.

