When Food Cultures Meet: The Fur Trade Era on the North American Plains

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Abstract : When cultures meet, so do their foods. Beginning in the seventeenth century, European explorers, missionaries and fur traders entered the North American Great Plains, bringing with them deadly weapons, metal tools and a host of trade goods. Over time, they also brought barrels of their favorite comestibles—even candied ginger. While Indigenous groups actively bartered for the material goods, there was limited interest in European foods, mainly because they possessed a rich cuisine of their own.

Keywords: native Americans, europeans, great plains, fur trade, food

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