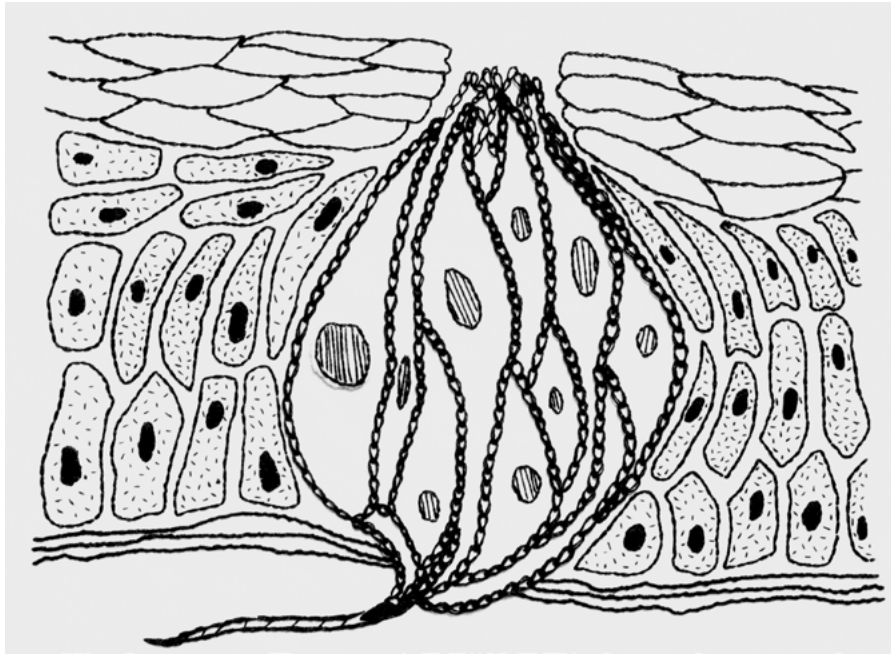


Zine **Verschenken**

#4 | september 2022 | tongue



Editorial



Histological embroidery: the taste bud is a microscopic 'rosebud'-shaped structure on the human tongue.

Welcome back readers. This month we are taking you on a tasty journey and I do mean literally, we are talking about the tongue. I for one am the most curious about what will come out of this issue. There are so many ways to explore it. Could there be a sci-fi story where tongues will be our newest form of identification? Each person's tongue is as individual as their fingerprint, so this really could be a possibility.

Or could it lead us to the rock and roll scene? Possibly the most known tongue art piece in the world, used in the iconic Rolling Stones sleeve in the album *Sticky Fingers* was designed by an art student, John Pache who was paid 250 £ for the artwork. Now it goes without saying that if we are talking about rock and roll, the most iconic tongue naturally belongs to Gene Simmons. Although it must be said that in more modern times it has been used by pop star Miley Cyrus, making a name for herself by showing her tongue. When she was asked about it, she said she disliked smiling for photographs and it felt more natural to pose with her tongue. And touché to her I say. Aren't we all a bit tired of smiling when we don't feel like it. Was there one small part of wearing a mask during the pandemic where you felt good being able to have your own private reaction to people and situations around you? Did any of you poke your tongue out hidden behind your masks? Should we use our tongues more to express ourselves?

A lot to unpack there, I know. As I said, this month's issue sets my mind in a whirr.

Let me leave you with this one response from Gene Simmons when he was asked about his thoughts on Miley Cyrus's tongue he said 'It was okay. But that's the girls version. It's like girls basketball. It's as good as girls can get at basketball. But you can't play with the guys'.

Hmmm, threatened much Gene? Why he cannot just pay a compliment to the next generation using a body part that he too became so famous for shows his aging, delicate pride. What a sad life he must be living to bring down not only a fellow musician but also the entire female basketball community. He clearly has had his whole life given to him easily. He will never understand that professional athletes and musicians are amongst the most corrupted industries towards women. They are fighters who we should support and praise as often as we can. So go on Miley, stick out your tongue for everything you believe in. And why not the female athletes of the world too, show your tongues, for everything you have worked for.

Enjoy this month's issue readers, and please while you are reading it, stick out your tongue for me!

It's a Matter of Taste

Hey all!
 Looking for some advice about reviewing an Airbnb. Basically I stayed in a private apartment for a month. The hosts are an elderly couple who to put it bluntly were overbearing. They lived downstairs and the apartment didn't have a private entrance (not stated in listing). When I got there the washer, oven and AC were all broken. This resulted in the man constantly coming to the unit to work on things. I also was allowed to use their family washer but the lady insisted on doing it for me. So basically she would come knocking asking for laundry every few days as early as 6am. They would also frequently knock in the evening offering baked goods or dinner. Again super sweet people but it felt like I had no privacy. They interrupted my online work meetings more than once. I want to be honest in my review so that other travelers know this is more of a "home stay" than an Airbnb but I don't want to leave a negative rating since they are genuinely being kind. Any ideas of how to phrase this or what you'd like to know if you were looking at booking?

I wonder if you spoke to them about this. This seems like in their minds they were being the best host they could be. It's another generation so simply writing a review could really sting when they read it. If you had never mentioned in to them in person, I agree with keeping it simple and kind. Mention all of the things that they did, but in a positive light. Someone out there would be happy to enjoy those perks of the stay. I also think zoom calls being interrupted aren't the end of the world. The postman rings my bell pretty often because he knows I work from home. The people on the other side of the call will understand excusing yourself for a moment.

I usually write private feedback for things like this and do not leave a public review. Gives them a chance to fix it without ruining their business.

I feel for you!! I don't think it's fair some people are saying you should have moved/said something earlier. I know first hand that sometimes it's not that easy/there aren't many other short stay options, or there's budget restrictions etc. Not to mention sometimes bringing these things up can make things awkward especially if it's close living quarters.

But I very much believe in picking your battles. Being kind but accurate can more easily communicate exactly what you need to to others.

Eg. I stayed for 1 month and had a pleasant stay. The hosts were extremely accomodating, and would often check in with me to offer food or to see if they could do some washing. Unfortunately a few appliances were broken during my stay (AC, ove and washing machine) but the hosts were very proactive in fixing them. This stay felt like how Airbnb was back in the day, as the hosts live downstairs and it has a "bed and breakfast" feel. Etc etc

People can read between the lines and see whether it's the right place for them.

When you can't say something good, it's best not to say anything.

Just a different thought - did you tell them what works for you were there? That privacy is a priority for you and that you are happy to come down if you need anything? I get 100% that you didn't like the constant visitors, but I am wondering as well if you put up a boundary and said what you needed, If not that's where I would get started tbh...

Wow. I stayed in a place exactly like that in Croatia earlier this year and I thought I had died and gone to heaven.

Have travellers become too rigid, that they can't just accept any small deviation from their expectations? If you really felt so terrible, just leave a feedabck. All these problems seem very first world and privileged, tbh

I would be honest with my rating as well as diplomatic with the review. This has happened with me many times. Not really the same issue, but what is mentioned in the description and what I got was different: e.g. place listed suitable for three people, but the host provided serveware for two; the host was living on the same premises (even if on a smaller outhouse); the host not mentioning restrictions with usage of air conditioner and the weather was hot. (All different examples, and not related) So I would focus on the positives, and then mention the discrepancies/ issues. In your case as well, the kindness part is fine, but they invaded your space unexpectedly.

What did you expect? You didn't stay at the hotel. You were lucky you had the friendliest hosts, caring and sweet. Some guests including myself have experienced weird and dodgy hosts. You could've communicated with them politely that you didn't want to be disturbed as you were busy with your online work meetings. You could've told them that you didn't want your laundry done every other few days. It's unfair to leave negative reviews just because they were extremely sweet and welcoming. They obviously treated you like their own family or friends staying in their home. They didn't just treat you like another tourist. They offered baked goods and dinner, wow, very generous of them. It would be so unfair to them if you leave them negative reviews. You could write all the nice things they did to you but you could also include that some people may prefer to have their privacy especially if they're working online. But give them 5 stars and don't forget to mention all the nice things they did to you.

I like your terming of it more like a homestay than a Airbnb and using that term specifically some people may love that and some people don't want that, but I think homestay is a positive thing and also honest. Imho you could add a lot of the details from this FB post (regularly coming by to offer dinner or cookies, etc) but not add that you weren't a fan. I really appreciate that you're being mindful about the impact of your review on both future travelers and the couple

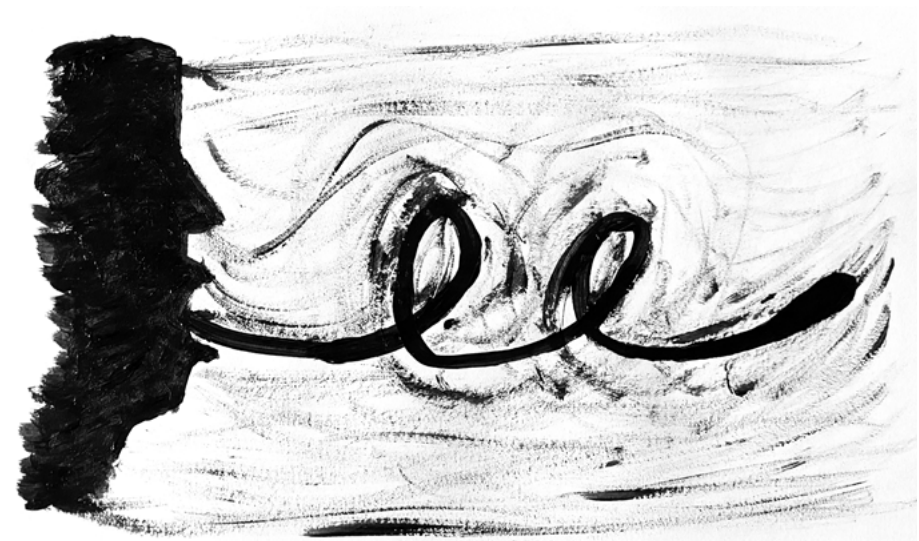
Why are you so compelled to share your experience? leave it alone. You'll feel better about yourself.

Good lor, that is absolutely not what I would want to deal with! Perhaps advise them - gently - in the personal (not shared) feedback that their instrusions were a pain in the ass?

'Sweetness' unasked for-is a coverup for owners lacking social boundaries. Review should clearly state it is a home stay, not a private rental.

That would totally drive me insane. Sounds like you handled it well. As for the review just tell the truth because while that doesn't work for many it might work for some!

After seeing many shitty Airbnb reviews. If the worst thing about your stay was them interrupting your zoom meeting to give you baked goods... well, I wish I had been you!

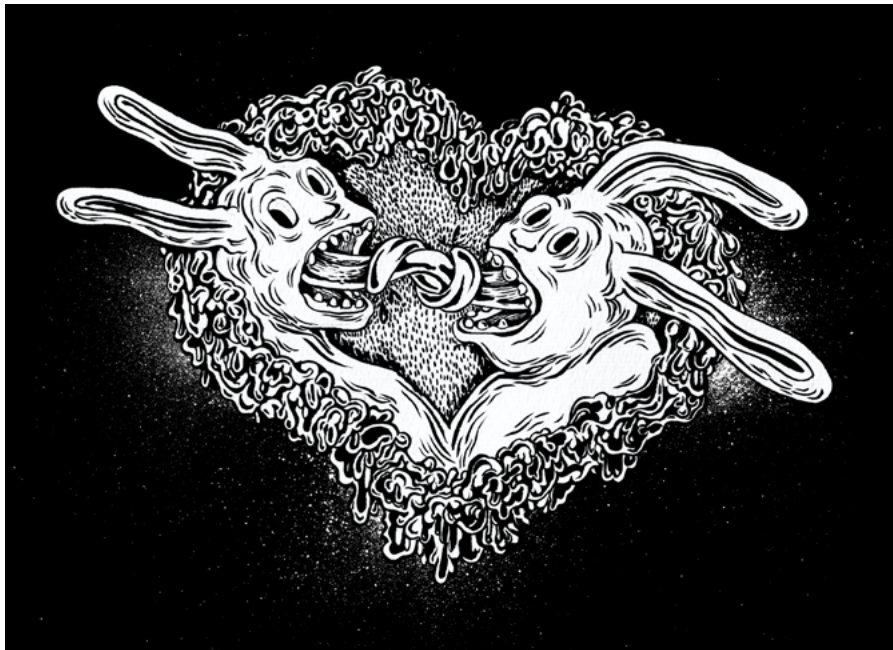


THE BEST Chewy Chocolate Chip Cookies

Total Time: 1 hour

Ingredients:

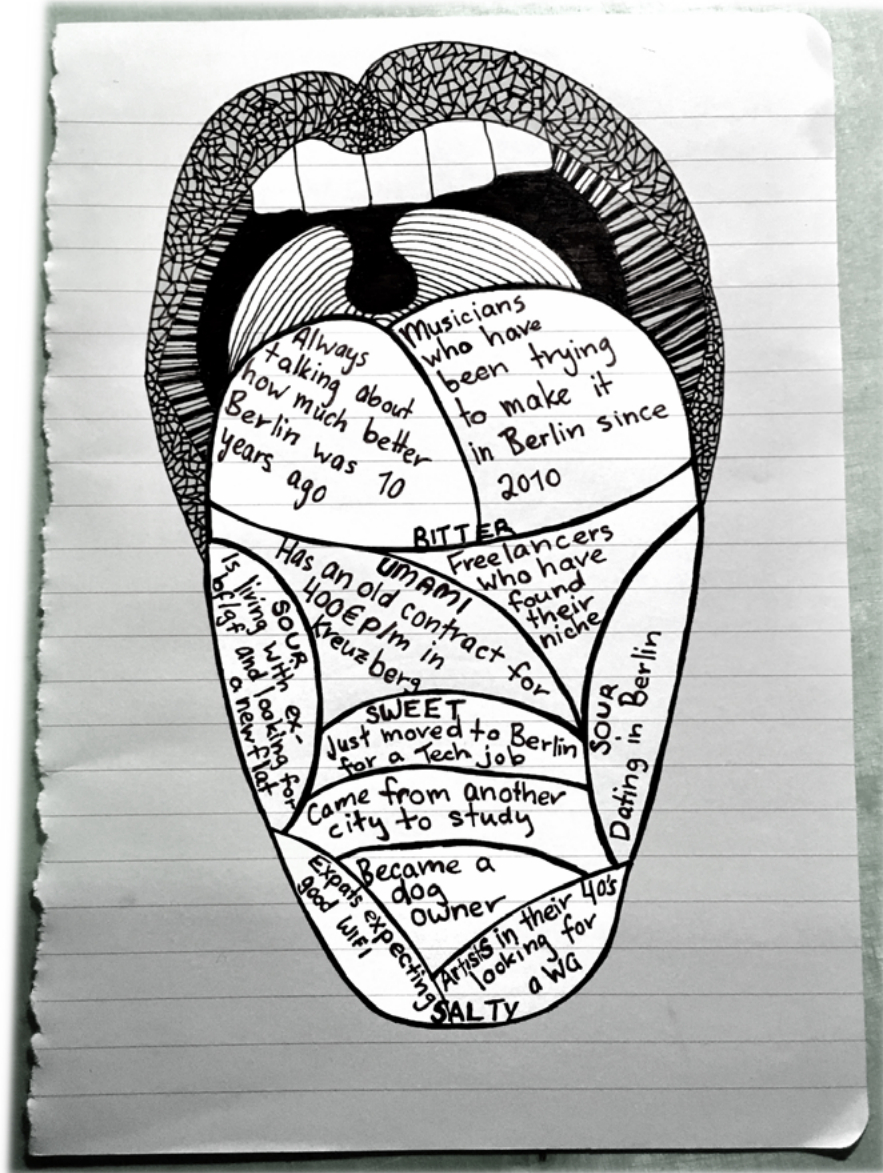
- 300 g all purpose flour
- 4 g baking soda
- 5 g cornstarch
- 6 g salt
- 170 g butter, melted and cooled
- 210 g dark brown sugar
- 100 g granulated sugar
- 2 large eggs
- 255 g dark chocolate chips, plus more for topping
- Optional: 2 teaspoons vanilla extract or 2 teaspoons coconut sirup



Instructions:

1. Whisk together the flour, baking soda, cornstarch, and salt in a medium-sized bowl. Set aside.
2. Use a hand mixer to beat together the cooled melted butter and the sugars for about one minute, in a large bowl. Then, add in the eggs and vanilla extract or coconut sirup. Beat until just combined.
3. Slowly add in the dry ingredients into the wet mixture and mix briefly, just until there are no flour clumps left. Fold in the chocolate chips.
4. Cover the bowl and refrigerate the dough for one hour.
5. Preheat the oven to 180°C, making sure you have the racks in the middle of the oven.
6. Remove the dough from the refrigerator and. Line two baking sheets with parchment paper.
7. Scoop 100 g of cookie dough at a time and roll it into balls. Then, tear the balls in half by pulling gently on both sides. Smush the two halves together again, but this time have the lumpy, torn sides face upward.
8. Place on the prepared baking sheet, making sure the cookies have enough space to spread. You should be able to fit 6 cookies on each tray.
9. Bake for about 10-14 minutes, rotating half-way through, or until the cookies have spread out and the edges are golden, but the centers of the cookies still look soft and undercooked. Every oven is different, so it is wise to start with just one or two cookies on the tray to see what baking time works best for your oven.
10. Let the cookies cool on the baking sheets until the cookies are firm enough to remove, about 15 minutes. As the cookies are cooling, press additional chocolate chips into the tops for a more professional look.

The key to perfect cookies is knowing how to adjust for your kitchen, don't hesitate to experiment!



Tongue in cheek? Or should they have bitten their tongue?



8am, side door open, enjoying morning sunshine and birdsong, and this wazzock turns up to piss on my day. Entire carpark empty. I mean WTF?!

Piss on your entire day! Not hard it would seem as you don't appear to have much of a life if that's all it takes.

Sensible parking, nothing worse at the start of the day when folk just park randomly anywhere. If it's a busy car park you end up with a lot less space for folk to park.

Or, alternatively, people park dark car in shade so car is cooler when they return from their walk? My Wife parks in the shade of taller vehicles for exactly that reason. If you consider that 'pissing on your day' then I hope that you get some help, anger isn't a good thing for your health.

Well expect we all would like to know the outcome... did you omve along a bit... did you both end up being friends... did you share a tea...

Did i speak to them

2 minutes later they hopped out and into a car share so I had no opportunity to make a new friend

I used to feel this way. And maybe I still would if the people don't make any interaction with me. But I had two women sleeping in their car pull up right next to me in an empty lot one night. It was their first time sleeping out of a campsite and we extremely nervous. They asked if they could stay by us because they were a little afraid to be alone. Maybe others will park by you and be too afraid to be the ones to make contact but they need a little human interaction. I feel that this topic has been said again and again in this group. I suggest changing the passive photo talking and ask them. People are far less annoying once you hear from their own perspective. There is probably a fairly reasonable explanation. We as van lifers have a little responsibility to be kind towards others. Maybe to them, you are just another car.

I see your point but in this case they just parked there and got out 2 minutes later to hop into a carshare. I think the "natural instinct to herd" that's been mentioned is probably quite likely to be the reason behind this particular incident

That's like when I walk my dog in an entire empty park but someone else walking theirs decides I must walk as close as possible to you even though you have told me your dog is nervous and you have made it obvious you want to keep your distance duh.

Not gonna lie I like doing this.
People's reactions are hilarious



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Artists Bianca Cheung
Erin Johnson
Luisa Estrada-Mallarino
NINANIÑA
Yehudi Villa Echevarría

Do you want to contribute to the zine?

Have any questions?

Send us an email:

zine.verschenken@gmail.com or
scan the QR code to access our website:



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