

The Discontinued Trader Joe's Products We Miss Most

Not all good things come to an end, but did the Dark Chocolate Almond Bark Thins really have to?

No other grocery store has been able to create the cult-like fanbase that Trader Joe's has amassed. Its shoppers are known for driving to far-flung TJ's locations—and waiting in lines equally as long—to stock up on much-loved items like Cauliflower Gnocchi, Pickled Beets, Frozen Gyoza, Everything But the Bagel Seasoning, and even Apple Cider Drinking Vinegar (don't knock it until you've tried it).

And why not? Everyone's got their own can't-live-without Trader Joe's product. Occasionally, however, something devastating happens: TJ's stops selling something we've become addicted to. You drove all that way with sweaty palms and shaky hands—and it's gone.

Here, we honor the items that have served us well. May they rest in peace.

Matcha Joe-Joe's

Oreos couldn't come close to these green tea-flavored sandwich cookies.

Carrot Spirals

Better get back on the zoodle train, because these little frozen carrot noodles are gone for good.

Joe's Dark Coffee Squares

Never underestimate the power of TJ's to make chocolate-anything impossibly addictive. These barely-sweet mocha squares had a powerful kick of 100 percent arabica coffee, so it felt OK to enjoy one or five at breakfast.

Organic Raw Blue Agave Sweetener

Trust us, our margaritas have suffered.

Sriracha Ranch Dressing

The only thing more cult-y than ranch dressing was Sriracha. Sigh.

Blue Cheese Mustard

Even non-mustard fans relished this salty-cheesy concoction. It was perfect on everything from sandwiches and salmon to roasted chicken and salad. Here's hoping it's just hibernating for the season.

Cinnamon Crumb Coffee Cake

This was discontinued several years ago, but TJ's brought it back in 2019. Sadly, it has since disappeared again. Fingers crossed it will be back in time for the holidays.

Salted Caramel Gelato

We're as confused as you are. This stuff was sweet, creamy, and perfect for pairing with their wafer cookies.

Banana Waffles

We've fallen for their traditional waffles, pumpkin waffles, gluten-free, Belgian waffles, and blueberry waffles. But none could replace their gluten-free banana waffles.

Tofu Edamame Nuggets

There was so much commotion when these vegan nuggets (made from soybeans, carrots, and tofu) disappeared that fans actually created a Change.org petition to bring them back. Sadly, they were unsuccessful.

Wasabi Mayonnaise

It almost made the Tofu Edamame Nugget farewell easier, since this was their ideal dipping sauce.

Organic Woodfired Sicilian Style Pizza

This frozen pie—topped with roasted red peppers, provolone, and mozzarella balls—was kid-friendly and took zero effort to cook.

Toasted Coconut Pancake Mix

First the banana waffles, now this?

Pita Crisps With Cranberries and Pumpkin Seeds

The good news is that Trader Joe's now sells a similar product in cracker form, but they just aren't the same. We have high hopes that these will make a debut in the fall once again.

Honey Butter Potato Chips

Say what you want about the concept—these chips were outrageously delicious. They were the perfect sweet-salty-sour trifecta, almost as if kettle corn and sour cream and onion chips had a baby (but better).

Discontinued Trader Joe's Products

Trader Joe's likes to mix up its inventory. Offering products on a seasonal basis helps drive demand, which means the shelves inside the grocery store appear different from one month to the next. While many of the chain's limited items do eventually return, other goods meet a more permanent end. Here are 11 Trader Joe's products that were discontinued, despite outcry from customers.

Released in 2017, Matcha Joe-Joe's quickly became a favorite among Trader Joe's clientele. The cookies consisted of green tea-flavored cream sandwiched between two golden biscuits. Despite the warm reception, the product had disappeared from shelves by 2019.

Trader Joe's customers prized this jarred tomato sauce for its spicy, bold flavor. Unfortunately, the store discontinued the product in 2022, forcing devotees to settle for one of the other dozen or so pasta sauces in its rotation.

Speculoos Cookie Butter is one of Trader Joe's most successful products, so naturally it inspired a few spin-offs. This frozen cheesecake came with a speculoos cookie crust and cookie butter swirled on top of the filling. Today, it's missing from the freezer aisle.

The Hatch Chile Chicken Wraps—the brand's take on Taco Bell's Crunchwrap Supreme—were discontinued in 2021 shortly after they were introduced. Luckily, customers still have a variety of frozen burritos, tamales, and taquitos to choose from.

Frozen garlic fries sound like an easy win for the grocery chain. And while the product had its fans, it wasn't popular enough to stick around past 2018.

Salted Caramel Gelato was another beloved Trader Joe's product that left us too soon. The creamy, rich desert was introduced in 2014, and it was stocked for years before ultimately getting the boot.

Honey butter on a potato chip doesn't sound like it should work, but according to many people who sampled the product, the salty-sweet flavor combination was spot-on. If more customers gave the snack a chance, maybe it wouldn't have been discontinued in 2018.

Vegetarians were thrilled when Trader Joe's debuted this plant-based alternative to frozen chicken cutlets. The veggies came pre-cut and breaded, making them perfect for weeknight eggplant parm. The cutlets were shown the door in 2019.

Trader Joe's sells several generic versions of brand-name items, and Spicy Cheese Crunchies was their take on Flamin' Hot Cheetos. But whether the mouth-scorching snack could compete with the original no longer matters—the Trader Joe's version was given the axe earlier this year.

Trader Joe's phyllo cigars stuffed with brie and raspberry were among the fancier items they stocked in the frozen section, but they never became a permanent part of the inventory.

Customers have one less item to consider when browsing Trader Joe's expansive tea selection. The chain's Red Refresh Tea—which featured hibiscus, lemongrass, peppermint, orange peel, and wild cherry bark—was pulled from shelves in 2022.

25 Discontinued Trader Joe's Items That Should Come Back

No other store creates fans of particular items like Trader Joe's. But the store will break your heart again and again. TJ's will invent the perfect treat that you'll always have in your freezer or pantry, something that will become your go-to solo dinner craving, or the one thing that your kids will eat without fail. You'll buy it every week, sometimes for years. And then, one day, it happens.

It's gone.

At first, you think they are just out that day. So, you return later in the week. But there, on the shelf where it has always been, nothing. Or even worse, a product that is similar but slightly different. Case in point, the Thai Lemongrass Chili Peanuts. Apparently, they now make a cashew version, but the peanuts, discontinued ten years ago, were a next-level snack, and are missed by many to this day.

WATCH: The Best and Worst Olive Oil from the Grocery Store

I polled some groups on Facebook asking who was missing particular items. In one day, I got so many responses I had to create a spreadsheet to keep up with them. One friend said, "I use a lot of Trader Joe's stuff as building blocks for dinners, and when they take something away, I really have to scramble."

Here are the top 25 items people are missing the most, divided into categories. And just in case someone from Trader Joe's is reading this: you could make a lot of people happy if you would consider rebooting some of these long gone, but not forgotten, treats.

Dips

No one makes a dip like Trader Joe's, and no one is quicker to pull them the moment everyone is addicted. Here are the top heartbreaks:

1. Herbed Brie Dip. Jamie says "It was seasonal, and then discontinued. I literally teared up when they told me."
2. Masala Lentil Dip. Caren and others remember it wistfully as having "The perfect amount of kick, and it was non-dairy. A great alternative to hummus."
3. The Three Layer Hummus left a big hole for many. Gabbie said "The cilantro layer was divine." and Laura "loved having a variety of hummus in one container."
4. There was a big outcry over the Roasted Garlic Salsa, which several people touted as having the perfect amount of garlic.
5. Cauliflower Cheese and Onion Dip. It was a riff on the classic spinach artichoke heat-and-eat dip, which they still carry, but several people said the cauliflower version was better and their parties haven't been the same.

Read more: 7 Trader Joe's Hostess Gifts Under \$10—That Aren't Wine

Side dishes

A lot of busy folks rely on Trader Joe's to provide quick, easy, and delicious side dishes to round out their meals, only to have those rugs pulled out from under them.

1. The Biryani Rice was a fond memory for several. It's apparently been unavailable for over five years and people still talk about it as being the holy grail of frozen sides.
2. The Harvest Hodgepodge frozen veggie mix was also a fan favorite. Wendy said, "I'm bereft. It was my go-to for quick stir-fries, it was the perfect size and mix of veggies."
3. Instant Garlic Mashed Potatoes seemed to be mourned especially by parents who called it the perfect easy side, because kids loved them, but they were also good enough for the grown-ups.
4. The Frozen Brown Rice/Quinoa Blend in a microwavable pouch was also a serious contender for most-missed in this category. Many people loved that it was both fast and delicious, and a step up from plain rice or plain quinoa.
5. Polenta Provencal inspired much love. Sarah referred to it as "My undoing. So good." And Ashley "still craves it."

Read more: The Best Item at Trader Joe's Is Just .99 Cents

Snacks

If I am having a large party or a houseful of guests for the weekend, there is no better place to stock up on nibbles, cocktail party snacks, or little sweet treats to have on hand. Here were the ones that the most people wish would come back:

1. The Frozen Phyllo Cigars with brie and raspberry. The ideal thing to keep in the freezer for spontaneous guests or an easy start to a dinner party.
2. The Black Bean Taquitos apparently made a big impression, especially since they were a great appetizer, but also worked as an after-school snack, or even a light lunch or dinner in a pinch. Many said they were their go-to option for vegetarians at parties.
3. Japanese Frozen Sticky Rice snacks were apparently very popular with parents and kids alike. Celise said, "We were heartbroken when they were discontinued."

4. Vegetable Shumai was another global favorite, people praised the ease of preparation and everyone said that they were always the first thing to disappear off the buffet, and many mentioned them as being the “vegetarian dish that the meat lovers loved.”
5. Ginger Cat Cookies still have a lot of fans out there. Anna said “they were a decades-long staple in our house, and one of the only cookies we were allowed growing up. Still mourning their loss after five years.”

Read more: [Your Next Cheese Board Needs These Trader Joe's Finds](#)

Meals

So many people tout Trader Joe's as saving them from eating too much takeout. Their frozen and jarred meals and sauces apparently kept many on the semi-homemade cooking kick and were the first thing to reach for after a busy day of work or to have the babysitter heat up for the kids.

1. Artichoke Gnocchi was a surprising fave, most mentioned making it with the TJ jarred vodka sauce for a dinner that was elegant, easy, and delicious.
2. The Pre-Cooked Chicken Breasts and Chicken Sausages were both huge losses. Many people said that they made for quick and easy lunch items or the beginning of dinner dishes.
3. The Greens, Beans and Grains Salad was mentioned a lot for being great on its own, or as the base for an added protein like a can of tuna or a grilled chicken breast as the perfect take to work lunch that was the opposite of a sad desk salad.
4. The Frozen Stuffed Salmon and Stuffed Chicken Breasts were touted as the centerpiece of many a dinner party or quick family meal.
5. Faith and many others still mourn the passing some 15 years hence of the Duck Sausages and Lamb Merguez. “Full of flavor and very versatile, used in everything from cassoulet type dishes to impromptu paellas. I still look for them.”

Read more: [Over 100 Ways to Use Trader Joe's Everything Bagel Seasoning Blend](#)

Miscellaneous

So many things fall into this category that it could have been its own article. More than a few people said that they have been known to search on sites like eBay to try and find these lost items.

1. Lovey Gummy Tummies used to be the seasonal item that helped many people get through February. Emily said “My favorite gummies ever. I would stock up every February, and then they never came back. The penguins are no replacement. I think about them every time I am there.”
2. I never would have suspected that Apricot Puree would have so many fans, but people mentioned doing everything from pouring it over yogurt at breakfast, to putting on cheese platters, to glazing holiday hams with it.
3. The Cocoa Coffee was also a huge hit with people, and Shannon in particular shared a bond with her mother-in-law over it, and they are both devastated that it was discontinued.
4. My personal loss is the Frozen Carrot Balls, little half-inch spheres of frozen carrot, they were amazing for soups, or made a fun side dish when glazed with ginger jam or miso maple butter. I loved how they looked and used to always keep a couple of bags in my freezer.
5. And a loss for many in general, and my husband in specific, was the Frozen Plain Unsweetened Steel Cut Oatmeal Pucks. These personal-size servings of cooked oatmeal took only a minute in the microwave to heat up and were a part of my husband's healthy breakfast for years before they discontinued them. They will still occasionally have the brown sugar or maple flavors, but we have not seen the unsweetened plain version in about five years.

Trader Joe's is a constant reminder that life is fleeting and nothing is promised to us. A permanent example of how important it is to live in the moment and stop and smell the roses—or the yogurt kale dip. And if your kids will only eat vegetables in the form of one of their treats, you might want to consider a chest freezer. Because once the spinach and kale parmesan balls are gone, they might never come back.

Read more: [Trader Joe's Is Selling Kunefe, a Super Cheesy Middle Eastern Dessert](#)

Trader Joe's Is Discontinuing These Items Amid Shortages

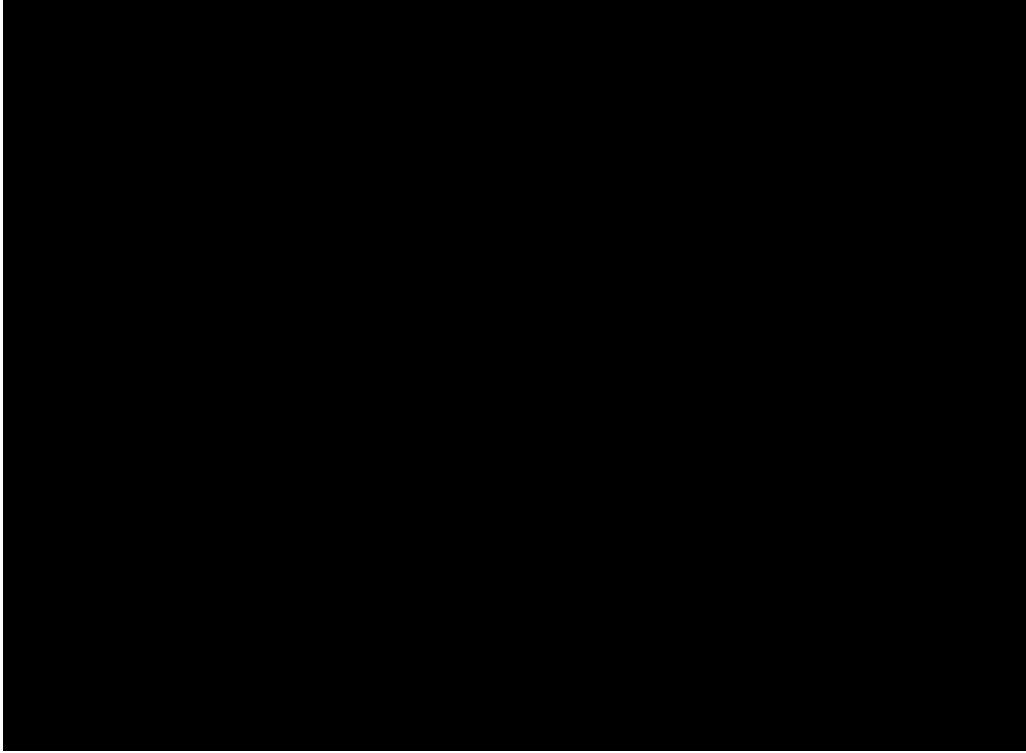
Grocery stores are still facing the effects of supply chain problems. Costco, Walmart, Kroger, and more are placing purchase limits on some items, and even big-name food companies are seeing low supplies of certain ingredients, which is forcing them to change up the recipes for their iconic products.

Trader Joe's is not immune to these hardships, and given that 80% of the grocery store chain's products are made by its own private label, supply issues are causing the beloved brand to make some tough decisions. Specifically, the low-cost grocery chain announced earlier this month that it's discontinuing six pet food products.

Related: These Are Costco's Most Popular Items Right Now

The four types of cat food and two types of dog food are leaving shelves for good because of "inconsistent availability and ongoing sourcing issues," Trader Joe's says. Once the remaining inventory of these six items runs out, shoppers will be left looking for other options.

The pet food products being discontinued at Trader Joe's are:



Courtesy of Trader Joe's

- Ocean Fish, Salmon & Rice Dinner Premium Cat Food
- Turkey & Giblets Dinner Premium Cat Food
- Grain Free Salmon Recipe Cat Food
- Grain Free Turkey Recipe Cat Food
- Grain Free Beef Recipe Dog Food
- Grain Free Chicken Recipe Dog Food

But, you can currently find other options at Trader Joe's.

Although pet owners will have to switch out the food they give their beloved cats and dogs, Trader Joe's does have other options—mainly for dogs. The canned Grain Free Chicken Recipe Dog Food along with the canned Grain Free Beef Dog Food are still available, as are a few types of treats: Grain Free Peanut Butter and Banana, Pumpkin Maple Bacon Stuffies, Cheeseburger Treats, and Chew-Cuterie assorted treats.

"Given the time and care involved in introducing our furry, four-legged friends to new foods, we hope this notice enables you to prepare for the transition accordingly," Trader Joe's says. "We sincerely apologize for the inconvenience."

Unfortunately, the pet food shortage isn't limited to this one grocery store.



Shutterstock

For months, cat and dog food—especially brands sold in aluminum packaging—have been facing shortages. As the Chicago Tribune reports, some options come and go on a cyclical basis due to problems with ingredients, packaging shortages, or staffing problems at manufacturing plants.

A lot of pet food is made with meat—which has also seen its fair share of supply issues in the last two years. "Sometimes it'll be duck, and we can't get duck in, or any duck products in, for a really long time, or every now and then it'll be salmon, and we can't get salmon in for a really long time," one pet store owner in Chicago told the newspaper.

These issues likely won't end this year. In fact, the Russian invasion of Ukraine plus continued supply chain disruptions are going to keep the supply unstable. And the products that are still available will likely have higher prices, according to PetFoodIndustry.com.

For more grocery store news you need to know, check out how Trader Joe's Is Opening Up New Stores In These Areas.

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Amanda McDonald

Amanda has a master's degree in journalism from Northwestern University and a bachelor's degree in digital journalism from Loyola University Chicago. Read more about Amanda

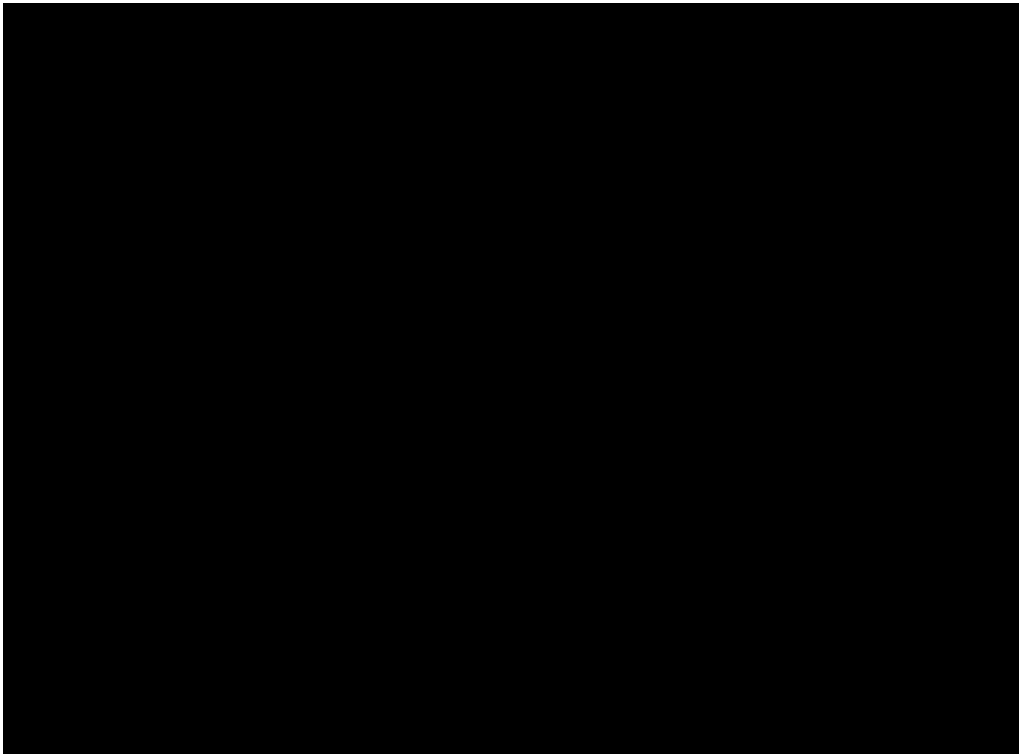
10 Items Trader Joe's Discontinued This Year

From Cookie Butter to Everything but the Bagel Seasoning, Trader Joe's products have drawn in an incredibly strong following from customers. And while it seems like the beloved grocery chain releases a new item every time you visit the store, that also means, for the sake of store space, that some products need to go—even fan-favorites.

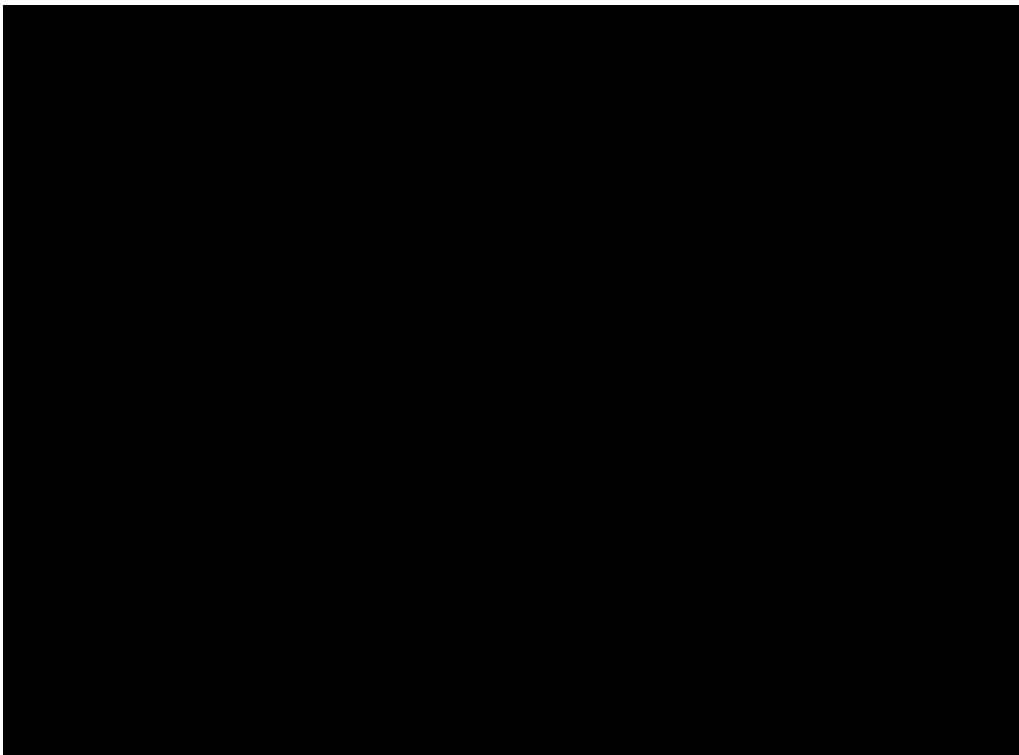
This year was chock-full of product releases and discontinuations, many of which happened rather quietly. But shoppers weren't left in the dark, thanks to updates from the Instagram account [@traderjoestobediscontinued](#).

So, let's take a trip down memory lane and revisit what no longer lives on the store's shelves. Here are 10 discontinued Trader Joe's items from 2021.

RELATED: [50 Discontinued Groceries That Have Vanished from Shelves](#)

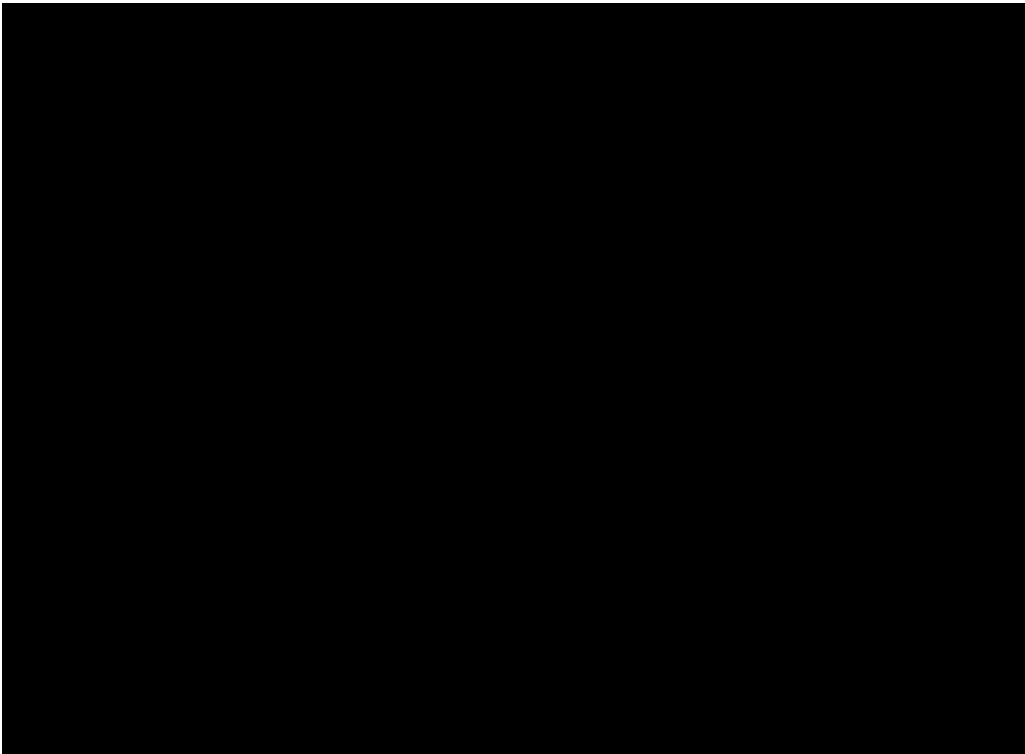


These crispy chocolate-filled sandwich cookies were discontinued in June, and many Trader Joe's fans were disappointed by the news, to say the least. One shopper commented on [@traderjoestobediscontinued's](#) Instagram announcement, "NO!!!!!! These are an ADDICTION ☐☐☐☐," while another user, who "tried [the cookies] based on the responses to the post," added, "... now I regret I even tried them because they are amazinggggg and soon they'll all be gone."



It's fair to say that Trader Joe's chili lime seasoning is quite the crowd-pleaser, but the flavored mayonnaise wasn't enough to hold its own. Made with lime juice concentrate, ancho chili pepper powder, and chipotle pepper powder, this Mexican-inspired condiment may not be on the grocery store shelves anymore, but you can still snag a jar on Amazon for \$12.45.

RELATED: To get all the latest Trader Joe's news delivered right to your email inbox every day, sign up for our newsletter!

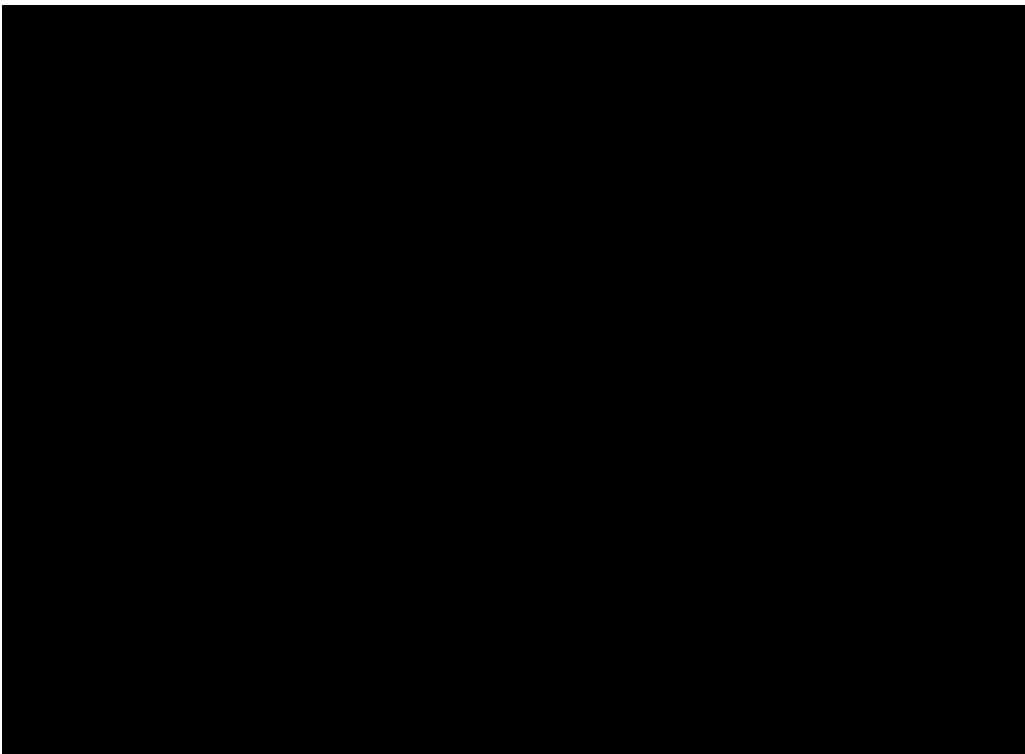


the-serendiper/eBay

On Dec. 2, @traderjoestobediscontinued announced that the Barbeque Popped Ridges will be discontinued soon. The announcement caused an uproar from fans. @traderjoescravings commented on the post, "Nooo!! I have a bag on my kitchen counter right now. They're good! ☐."

Another commenter emphasized taking action by writing, "If enough people generate interest and contact Trader Joe's, maybe MAYBE they might return them if it is by popular demand. I love these and will be sending out emails."

Like the Chili Lime Mayonnaise, the BBQ-flavored snack is being sold elsewhere on the internet—so you can purchase a bag on eBay for \$6.88.



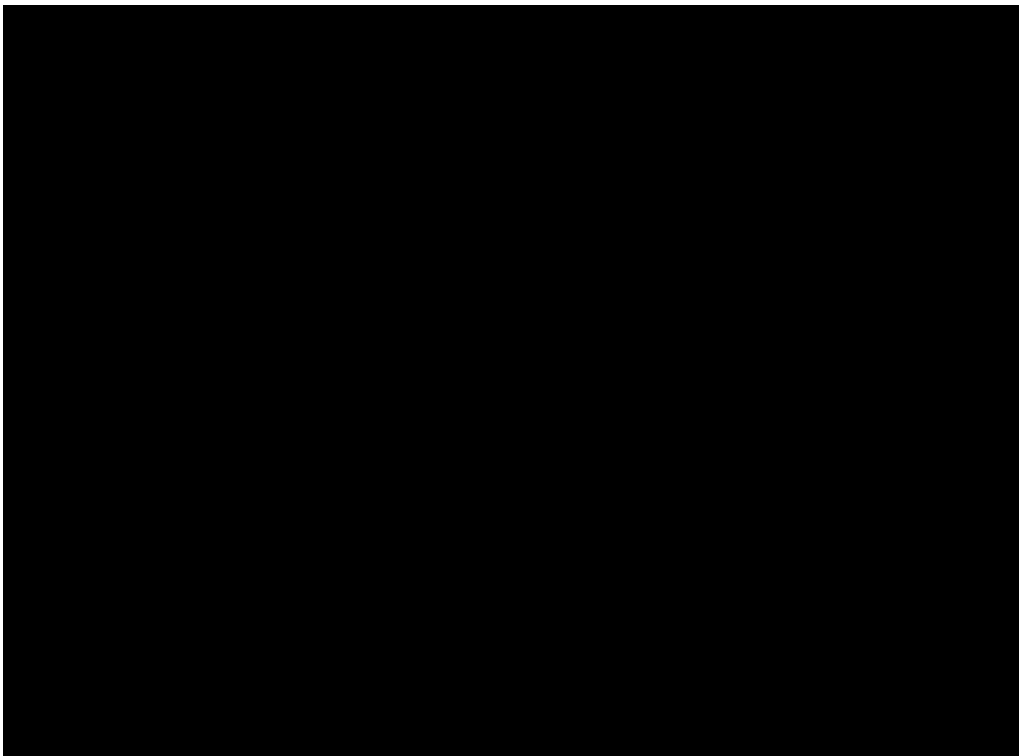
Courtesy of Trader Joe's

Released in 2019, Trader Joe's broccoli and kale pizza crust was a gluten-free, veggie-packed canvas for pizza toppings—and is no longer in TJ's freezer section.

It also didn't have the greatest appeal among many consumers. Instagram account @traderjoesobsessed, who has more than 540,000 followers, wrote on @traderjoestobediscontinued's post, "Ok I'm not mad about this ☐," while another user commented, "Not going to lie...thank GOD."



As of July, the Legendary Nut and Berry Mix has been living up to its name: it's now just a legend. The mix included almonds, cranberries, raisins, cashews, blueberries, walnuts, and raspberries. If you're missing this product, have no fear, as Trader Joes' expansive selection of trail mix options isn't going anywhere anytime soon.



Tara T./ Yelp

Another 2019 product bit the dust this year. This hot sauce-infused hummus didn't last very long, and its farewell is met with mixed reactions.

In a 2019 review by The Kitchn, Elizabeth Sherman had overall positive things to say about the dip, dubbing it "snack heaven." However, she noted that it had a "slightly unsatisfying texture," as it was "a bit watery and thin."

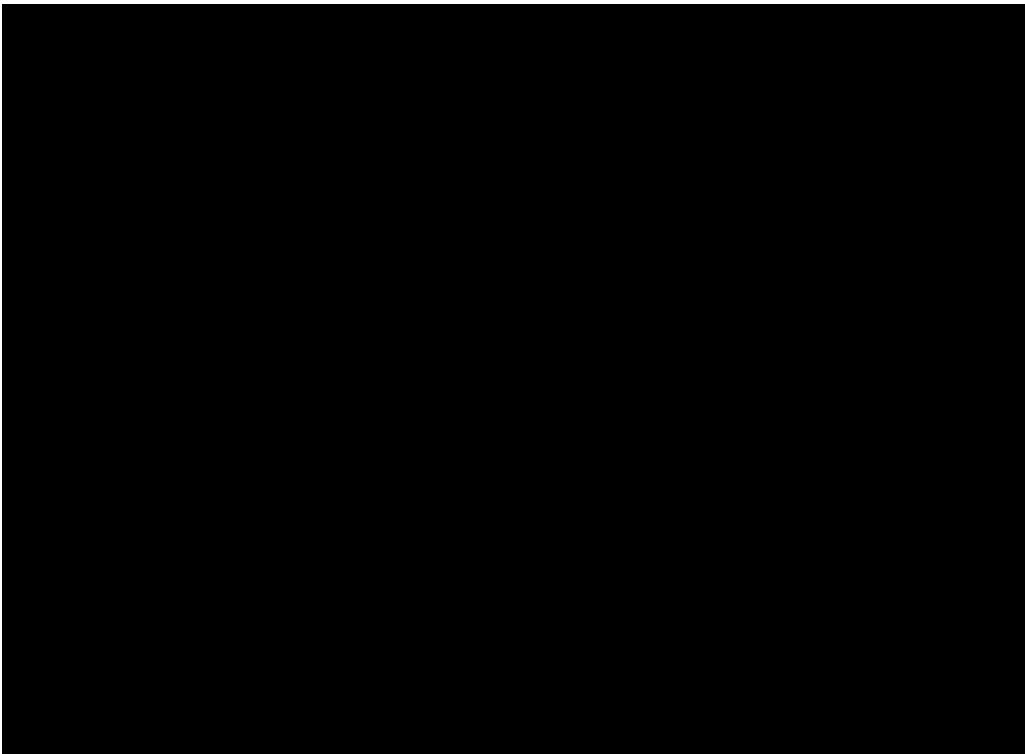
An Instagram user echoed a similar sentiment about the hummus' consistency on @traderjoestobediscontinued's October post, writing, "I thought it was watery and the smell was off putting to me. I didn't think it had much Buffalo flavor either..."

RELATED: 7 Discontinued Fast-Food Items That Came Back This Year



Giang-Tien M./Yelp

These high-fiber, protein-packed tortilla chips got the boot over the summer—and shoppers had mixed responses. One Instagram user wrote, "WHY. These were so good with pepita salsa🍷," while others weren't too broken up about the news. Another person commented, "Wish they would have discontinued these when I was a kid so my mom would have bought us normal freakin tortilla chips that don't taste like an ashtray."

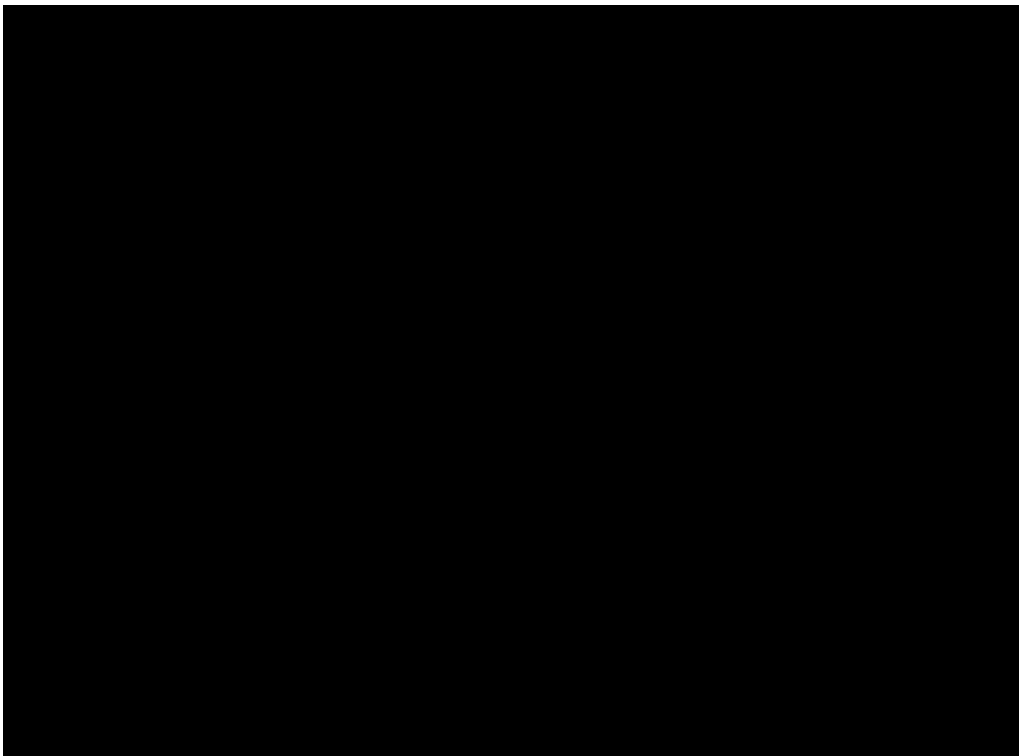


Typically paired with vegetables or crackers, this Blue and Cheddar Pub Cheese got the ax in October. While the plain pub cheese is a crowd favorite for those in this Reddit thread, Reddit user @SimplyBohemian, who started the thread when the cheese spread was still available, noted, "I think the flavors mix really well! Much more blue initially and finishes stronger on the cheddar."

And Trader Joe's fans weren't too thrilled to hear that this cheese was exiting the store, with one person saying, "OKAY NOW IT'S PERSONAL," and another commenting "Love this cheese!!!❤️🍷❤️🍷 Why?"



This low-carb, protein-packed, gluten-free pasta alternative made with only black bean flour was discontinued last spring. In spite of this, another one-ingredient pasta reigns supreme in the grocery store's pasta category: Hearts of Palm Pasta—which was recently named one of the healthiest new Trader Joe's products.



Courtesy of Trader Joe's

After much speculation in the spring over whether these Russian dumplings were getting discontinued, @traderjoestobediscontinued finally confirmed the news at the end of October—and people weren't happy. One person commented, "One of the only things my picky kid would eat quickly and without a fight! So devastated, does anyone else sell something similar!?" Luckily, we've compiled 15 Trader Joe's Frozen Food Recipes for those who need a new frozen food go-to.

For more Trader Joe's news, check out:

- [Trader Joe's Just Opened a Highly-Anticipated New Store in This Iconic Location](#)
- [I Tasted 8 Trader Joe's Frozen Desserts & This Is the Best](#)
- [Shoppers Are Seeing These 15 Shortages at Their Local ALDI and Trader Joe's](#)

Brianna Ruback

Brianna is the Editorial Assistant at Eat This, Not That! She attended Ithaca College, where she graduated with a degree in Journalism and a minor in Communication Studies. Read more about Brianna

25 Discontinued Trader Joe's Items That Should Come Back

Baby come back. Any kind of fool could see. There was something in everything about you.

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4. There was a big outcry over the Roasted Garlic Salsa, which several people touted as having the perfect amount of garlic.
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3. The Greens, Beans and Grains Salad was mentioned a lot for being great on its own, or as the base for an added protein like a can of tuna or a grilled chicken breast as the perfect take to work lunch that was the opposite of a sad desk salad.
4. The Frozen Stuffed Salmon and Stuffed Chicken Breasts were touted as the centerpiece of many a dinner party or quick family meal.
5. Faith and many others still mourn the passing some 15 years hence of the Duck Sausages and Lamb Merguez. “Full of flavor and very versatile, used in everything from cassoulet type dishes to impromptu paellas. I still look for them.”

Miscellaneous

So many things fall into this category that it could have been its own article. More than a few people said that they have been known to search on sites like eBay to try and find these lost items.

1. Lovey Gummy Tummies used to be the seasonal item that helped many people get through February. Emily said “My favorite gummies ever. I would stock up every February, and then they never came back. The penguins are no replacement. I think about them every time I am there.”
2. I never would have suspected that Apricot Puree would have so many fans, but people mentioned doing everything from pouring it over yogurt at breakfast, to putting on cheese platters, to glazing holiday hams with it.
3. The Cocoa Coffee was also a huge hit with people, and Shannon in particular shared a bond with her mother-in-law over it, and they are both devastated that it was discontinued.
4. My personal loss is the Frozen Carrot Balls, little half-inch spheres of frozen carrot, they were amazing for soups, or made a fun side dish when glazed with ginger jam or miso maple butter. I loved how they looked and used to always keep a couple of bags in my freezer.
5. And a loss for many in general, and my husband in specific, was the Frozen Plain Unsweetened Steel Cut Oatmeal Pucks. These personal-size servings of cooked oatmeal took only a minute in the microwave to heat up and were a part of my husband’s healthy breakfast for years before they discontinued them. They will still occasionally have the brown sugar or maple flavors, but we have not seen the unsweetened plain version in about five years.

Trader Joe’s is a constant reminder that life is fleeting and nothing is promised to us. A permanent example of how important it is to live in the moment and stop and smell the roses—or the yogurt kale dip. And if your kids will only eat vegetables in the form of one of their treats, you might want to consider a chest freezer. Because once the spinach and kale parmesan balls are gone, they might never come back.