Chocolate-Chestnut Self-Saucing Puddings

Serves 6

Prep time: 30 mins, cook 20 mins (plus standing)

Ingredients

- 50 gm dried muscatels or raisins
- 75 ml Marsala
- 340 gm brown sugar
- 140 gm butter, softened
- 2 eggs
- 100 gm sweetened chestnut puree
- 225 gm (1½ cups) self-raising flour
- 65 gm Dutch-process cocoa
- ¹/₂ tsp baking powder
- 225 ml milk
- 140 gm dark chocolate (61% cocoa solids), coarsely chopped

Chestnut cream

- 300 ml double cream
- 30 gm sweetened chestnut puree
- 20 ml Marsala

Method

1. Preheat oven to 170°C.

2. Combine muscatels and 50ml Marsala in a small saucepan, bring to the simmer over medium heat, remove from heat and cool to room temperature.

3. Meanwhile, beat 200gm brown sugar and butter until pale and creamy, add eggs and chestnut puree and beat to combine. Sift over flour, 50gm cocoa and baking powder, mix to combine, then stir in milk, chocolate, muscatels and muscatel liquid.

4. Divide among 6 lightly buttered 2-cup-capacity ovenproof moulds and set aside.
5. Combine remaining brown sugar and remaining cocoa in a heatproof bowl, gradually add 350ml boiling water and stir until smooth and combined, then stir in remaining Marsala. Pour over pudding batter, dividing equally among moulds, then bake until risen and a skewer withdraws clean (15-20 minutes).

6. Meanwhile, for chestnut cream, whisk ingredients until soft peaks form, then refrigerate until required.

7. Serve with hot chocolate-chestnut puddings.

Recipe by Emma Knowles, Gourmet Traveller Magazine June 2009

