

BOUILLABASSE

EQUIPMENT

CHEF'S KNIFE, SMALL MIXING BOWLS, BAKING TRAY

INGREDIENTS

20 FENNEL SEEDS, 2 SMALL FENNEL BULBS, 4 SHALLOTS, 3 GARLIC CLOVES, 1 SMALL LEEK, 250-300GM WATER, PINCH OF SAFFRON STRANDS, 3 WHOLE RED MULLET, 2 FLATHEAD FILLETS, 300GM BLACK MUSSELS, 4 KING PRAWNS, 1 CLEANED BLUE SWIMMER CRAB, 200GM PIPPIES, 150ML VERJUICE, SEA SALT, EXTRA VIRGIN OLIVE OIL, FILL AND FENNEL FRONDS.

METHOD

Finely slice fennel, shallots and garlic. Place all vegetables on a solid baking tray and season with fennel seeds, salt and saffron. Toss all ingredients together and drizzle with a little olive oil.

Place the red mullet on top of the vegetables and season with salt and a little extra oil. Place the tray into a pre-heated oven combi setting (25% steam) 200°C for 15 minutes.

Once cooked remove the tray from the oven and switch the oven to steam setting 100°C and pour over verjuice and add the crab pieces. Return the tray to the oven to steam for 5-6 minutes.

Once cooked remove the tray from the oven and turn over the crab and mullet. Add prawns, flathead and water and return to the oven to steam for another 5-6 minutes.

Remove the tray once more and add the mussels and pippies and return to the oven for a final 4-5 minutes.

Once the mussels and pippies have opened remove the tray and place all the seafood into a large sharing bowl, pour over all the cooking liquid and garnish with dill and fennel fronds and serve with crusty bread in the middle of the table.

HINTS & TIPS

- BOUILLABAISSE IS A CLASSIC FRENCH DISH THAT FISHMONGERS USED TO COOK ON PIERS ONCE THEY DOCKED FOR THE DAY; USUALLY LEFTOVER FISH WERE USED ALONG WITH ANY CRABS OR CRUSTACEANS.

- Serve Bouillabaisse with rouille a classic mayonnaise made with potato and oil.

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