

Rutland, Steady, Cook! The Falcon Hotel's Brunch Bread

Ingredients

1kg Strong Bread Flour
2 sachets of dried yeast
1tsp Honey
600ml Water, tepid
1 bulb of Garlic, broken into cloves

5 sprigs of Rosemary Extra Virgin Olive Oil 300g Cherry Tomatoes, washed Sea Salt

Method

- 1. Put the flour in a large mixing bowl. Use your hands to make a hole in the middle. Add the yeast, honey and two large pinches of sea salt. Add most of the water. Using a spoon, mix the water into the flour mix until it starts to form a sticky ball (if it looks dry, add the remaining water).
- 2. Lightly oil a large bowl and set it aside. Turn the dough out onto a lightly floured surface. Dust your hands with the flour and start kneading. Hint: Pull the dough towards you with one hand while pushing it away with the other hand). Keep kneading until you have a smooth, soft, elastic dough. Shape this into a ball and place it into your oiled bowl. Cover the bowl with a clean, damp cloth. Leave it somewhere warm to rise, this will take about an hour.
- **3.** Place the garlic, rosemary and a small pinch of salt into a mortar (or sturdy bowl) and crush it together with a pestle (or blunt object) to release the flavours. Add 3 table spoons of olive oil and mix together. Set aside.
- **4.** Drizzle a 13 x 9 pan with olive oil (for thinner bread use a larger pan).
- **5.** Once the dough has doubled in size, press it gently (it should feel wobbly). Tip it out onto a floured surface and knead/punch it for a few moments to knock out the air. Place it into your prepared tray and stretch to fit.
- **6.** Smear your flavoured oil including all of the garlic and rosemary over the dough. Push your fingers into the dough to make lots of dents and gentle press the cherry tomatoes into the holes. Leave to rise for a further 40 minutes.
- **7.** Preheat your oven to 220 C / Gas Mark 7. Bake your bread for about 25 minutes. Once out of the oven, drizzle with some more olive oil and enjoy!

Don't forget to share your own **The Falcon Hotel's Brunch Bread** image on Facebook using **#RutlandSteadyCook**

Thank you to: Ali Duncombe from The Falcon Hotel, Uppingham