

GASTRONOMIE



# FESTIVE VERRINES



Original creation by Frédéric BOURSE, Pastry Chef International Trainer and Consultant

Recipe for around ten 120 ml verrines (5.5 cm in diameter and 8 cm high)

### **1. CHESTNUT FONDANT SPONGE**

30 g softened butter 10 g caster sugar 5 g vanilla sugar 80 g chestnut cream 20 g almond powder 1 whole egg (50 g) 15 g whole milk 30 g flour Type 55 ½ level teaspoon of baking powder Total weight: 240 g

In a bowl, whisk softened butter with sugar, vanilla sugar, chestnut cream and almond powder. Add egg and milk. Incorportate the flour sieved with the baking powder. Preheat the oven to 180°C. Spread in a 5 mm layer into a circle or a greased floured sponge mould. Bake in a convection oven at 180°C for around 10 minutes, making sure that it remains soft and fluffy. Unmould. When cooled use a cutter to make discs the same diameter as the verrines (5 cm).

## 2. LYCHEE AND CHESTNUT COMPOTE WITH RÉMY MARTIN® COGNAC

- 140 g lychees in syrup
- 40 g sugar for jam
- 120 g cracks of candied chestnuts
- 15 g Rémy Martin<sup>®</sup> VSOP cognac 40% vol.
- 1½ gelatin leave (3 g) 200 Blooms
- Total weight: 318 g

Coarsely chop the lychees to preserve the small pieces. In a saucepan, heat the blended lychees and sugar. Add the cracks of candied chestnuts and heat for another 2 minutes. Add the gelatin softened in cold water and drained, then Rémy Martin® VSOP. Refrigerate. Whilst the compote is cooling, stir it with a rubber spatula to stop it from jellifying completely – you are aiming for a slightly runnier consistency.

### 3. LIGHT VANILLA CREAM WITH RÉMY MARTIN<sup>®</sup> COGNAC

40 g liquid cream (35% fat) 25 g whole milk ½ vanilla bean 1 egg yolk (20 g) 40 g caster sugar ½ gelatin leave (1 g) 200 Blooms 15 g Rémy Martin® VSOP cognac 40% vol. 200 g whipped cream Total weight: 341 g

In a saucepan, bring the liquid cream and whole milk to the boil and let the split and scraped vanilla bean infuse in the mixture. Strain. In a bowl, gently cream the egg yolk and the caster sugar, then add the hot vanilla infusion and heat to 85°C (just before boiling). Add the gelatine softened in cold water and drained, then sieve using a fine strainer and blend. Cool the mixture to 40/45°C (hardly tepid), then add the Rémy Martin<sup>®</sup> VSOP and gently fold in the smooth whipped cream. Set aside.

### 4. RÉMY MARTIN<sup>®</sup> COGNAC SOAKING SYRUP

30 g caster sugar 50 g water 35 g <mark>Rémy Martin® VSOP</mark> Cognac 40% vol. Total weight: 115 g

In a saucepan, boil water and sugar. Leave to cool and add the Rémy Martin<sup>®</sup> VSOP.

### 5. CHESTNUT AND CARAMEL SAUCE

½ vanilla bean 40 g caster sugar 125 g liquid cream (35% fat) 45 g chestnut cream ½ gelatin leave (1 g) 200 Blooms Total weight: 211 g





In a saucepan, heat the caster sugar with the split and scraped vanilla bean to form a dry, amber caramel. Deglaze with the boiling whipping cream. Heat the caramel sauce to 102°C (boil for 1 minute), then add the chestnut cream and the gelatine softened in cold water and drained. Strain and set aside.

#### 6. ASSEMBLY AND FINISHING

Insert around 20 g of light vanilla cream with Rémy Martin<sup>®</sup> VSOP into each verrine. On top, place a disc of about 9 g of fondant sponge soaked in a little Rémy Martin<sup>®</sup> VSOP syrup. Then add around 30 g of lychee and chestnut compote. Pipe a little more (around 10 g) light vanilla cream with Rémy Martin<sup>®</sup> VSOP on top, and place the verrines in the refrigerator. Top each verrine with about 15 g of chestnut and caramel sauce. Garnish with a small chestnut in syrup or candied chestnut and a sprig of fresh rosemary.



