

GASTRONOMIE

METAXA°

Original creation by Michalis Chatzikalimeris, Pastry Chef, Four Seasons Astir Palace Hotel, Athens, Greece

MICHALIS' BABA

Recipe for 30 babas

CHEF

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1. BABA DOUGH

15 g fresh yeast 225 g milk 25°C 75 g strong flour 300 g strong flour 230 g eggs 30 g caster sugar 8 g salt 1 orange zest 1 lemon zest 120 g butter 82%

Mix the first 3 ingredients and leave to stand for 30 minutes at room temperature. When the mixture has doubled in volume, add the remaining ingredients except the butter and knead for 5 minutes. Then gradually add the soft butter until it is fully incorporated and the dough is smooth and supple.

2. METAXA WHITE CHOCOLATE WHIPPED GANACHE

505 g cream 1 vanilla pod 4,5 g gelatine 165 g white chocolate 35 g **Metaxa®** 60%

In a saucepan, heat the cream with the vanilla pod. When boiling, stir in the gelatine, then the white chocolate. Allow to cool slightly before adding the Metaxa®. Set aside in the fridge for 24 hours before beating like whipped cream to decorate the baba.



3. SOAKING SYRUP

1 liter water 500 g caster sugar Zest of half an orange Zest of half a lemon Zest of half a mandarin 100 g Metaxa[®] 60%

In a saucepan, bring all ingredients to the boil, except the Metaxa[®], which must be added at a maximum temperature of 40°C. Soak the babas when they reach a temperature of 60° C.

4. PASSION ORANGE COMPOTE

150 g caster sugar10 g yellow pectin300 g orange segments150 g passion fruit puree2 orange zests

Mix sugar and pectin. Place all ingredients in the Thermomix and blend at speed 4, Varoma function (120°C) for 5 minutes.

5. ORANGE CONFIT

200 g water 100 g sugar 30 g orange peel sticks (zest only, no white)

Bring water and sugar to the boil in a saucepan. Reduce heat and add orange peel sticks. Reduce for 10 minutes, then remove from heat and leave to cool.

6. ASSEMBLY

Place at the bottom of the glass about 30 g of passion orange compote, then the baba already soaked in syrup. Garnish with the Metaxa[®] white chocolate whipped ganache. Decorate with the orange confit.

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