



# Sticky toffee pudding with pear and tonka bean caramel

By Shannon Bennett

35 minutes

Preparation time

40 minutes

Cooking time

10-12 servings

Serves

#### **INGREDIENTS**

#### Sugar syrup

220 g caster sugar 500 ml water

# **Dehydrated pear**

1 William or Packham pear

# **Puddings**

200 g pitted dates, halved
250 ml water
½ tsp bi-carb soda
60 g butter, room temperature
160 g brown sugar
2 eggs
200 g self raising flour
1 William or Packham pear, peeled

## Tonka bean caramel sauce

300 ml cream 200 g brown sugar 250 g butter 1 tonka beans, roughly chopped

#### To serve

Vanilla bean ice cream and or clotted cream
Crisp pear slices

#### **Miele Accessories**

Baking tray
Steam container

#### **METHOD**

## Sugar syrup

- 1. Place sugar and water in a saucepan on medium heat, Induction setting 6-7.
- 2. Bring to the boil slowly, stirring to dissolve the sugar. Boil for 2 minutes, remove from the heat and set aside to cool.

## **Dehydrated pear**

- 1. Slice the unpeeled pear very thinly using a mandolin, approximately 2 mm thick.
- 2. Wrap cling wrap over a Baking tray twice, this will allow air to flow beneath the pears for a crisper result. Dip each pear slice into the sugar syrup and lay flat onto the plastic wrap, leaving a small space between each slice
- 3. Place the Baking tray on a rack in a Gourmet Warming Drawer on Food Setting 5 (approximately 85°C) or in an Oven on Drying
  - function at 90°C. Set timer for 6 hours. Check the pears for crispness, if firm, they are ready, otherwise continue to dry for another hour.
- 4. Leave pear slices in the Oven until completely cool to touch. Store in an airtight container.

#### **Puddings**

- 1. Grease and line the bases of a 12 cup muffin tin, or a 2 litre capacity rectangular baking dish. Pre-heat Oven at 160°C with 1 manual burst of steam.
- 2. Place the dates and water into a saucepan on medium heat, Induction setting 6-7 and bring to the boil. Remove from heat and add bi-carb soda, stirring well to combine. Set aside to cool at room temperature.
- 3. Cut the pear in half lengthways and remove the core with a melon baller. Place the pear in a Perforated steam container and Steam
  - at 100°C for 4 minutes. The pear should be cooked but have a little resistance to it's flesh. Set aside in the Refrigerator to cool completely and dice.
- 4. Cream the butter and sugar together in a large bowl of an electric mixer until thick and creamy.
- 5. Add eggs, one at a time, mixing thoroughly between each addition.
- 6. Add flour and combine.
- 7. Whisk the date mixture into a smooth paste and add to the mixture.
- 8. Add the diced pear and gently fold through.
- 9. Spoon mixture evenly into the preferred tins/dish and place into Oven on shelf position 2 and release the burst of steam immediately. Bake for 20-25 minutes for individual serves or 50-55 minutes for a large pudding until firm to touch and deep golden brown.

#### Tonka bean caramel sauce

- 1. Place all the ingredients in a saucepan over medium heat, Induction setting 5-6 until melted, whisk well to combine. Reduce heat to low, Induction setting 4 and continue to cook for a further 15-20 minutes.
- 2. Cool the sauce for 5 minutes before straining caramel through a sieve over a heat-proof bowl. Discard the tonka bean.
- 3. Pierce the tops of the warm puddings with a skewer and spoon over a tablespoon of the caramel sauce. Return the puddings to the oven and continue to Bake for a further 5 minutes.
- 4. Serve with extra caramel sauce, clotted cream and or ice cream.

#### Hints and tips

- If pears are very hard, they may need a few extra minutes of steaming.
- Tonka beans have a bitter almond flavour and are a great alternative to vanilla or cinnamon. They can be purchased from specialty delicatessens and gourmet food stores.