



# French onion soup

#### By Shannon Bennett

40 minutes Prep time

3 hours Cooking time

10 Servings Serves

# INGREDIENTS

#### Soup

10 x 280 ml capacity cast iron pots 150 g duck fat 3 kg brown onions, peeled and thinly sliced 2 cloves of garlic, crushed 1/4 bunch thyme 150 ml white wine 1 tablespoon sherry vinegar 1 litre mushroom stock 1 litre chicken stock Sea Salt and white pepper to taste 1 ale beer (375 ml) 10 rounds of puff pastry (approximately 5mm thick and 15 cm and 2 cm diameter larger than serving bowls) 2 egg yolks, lightly beaten for glazing 200 g Gruyere cheese, grated

# **Chicken stock**

2 kg chicken carcasses
1 carrot, peeled and cut
lengthways
1 large onion, cut in half
1 leek washed, root
removed
3 garlic cloves
1 celery stalk, cut into 3 cm
lengths
5 peppercorns
1 bouquet garni
3 litres water

#### Mushroom stock

15 g dried porcini mushrooms 1 litre hot water Miele Accessories Gourmet oven dish

### METHOD

## Chicken stock

- 1. Place vegetables, garlic and peppercorns into a large pot and dry roast.
- 2. Add chicken bones and cover with water. Add bouquet garni and bring to the boil on Induction setting 6.
- 3. Reduce heat to medium-low, Induction setting 3-4 and continue to cook for 4 hours.
- 4. Strain through a fine sieve.

#### **Mushroom stock**

- 1. Place dried porcini mushrooms into hot water and soak for 20 minutes.
- 2. Strain the stock and reserve for later use.

# Soup

- 1. Pre-heat oven to 200?C on Moisture Plus with 1 manual burst of steam.
- 2. Place the Induction gourmet oven dish on medium heat, Induction setting 6, melt the duck fat.
- 3. Add onions, garlic and thyme, cover and sweat down for 45 minutes, stirring occasionally to prevent sticking.
- 4. Deglaze the pan with white wine and reduce until most of the liquid has evaporated. Add the sherry vinegar and cook for 2 minutes.
- 5. Add stocks and reduce the liquid by ? on medium-low heat, Induction setting 4-5.
- 6. Remove from heat and check seasoning. Refrigerate until cool.
- 7. Place 180 ml of soup mixture into pots and top with 30 ml of beer.
- 8. Refrigerate until cold.
- 9. Brush one side of each pastry disc with egg yolk and place over the pot (egg side down) with an excess of at least 2 cm all round. Press very gently into the edge of the pot and refrigerate for a further 30 minutes.
- 10. Remove pots from the refrigerator, brush with egg yolk and stand at room temperature for 10 minutes. Cook at 200?C on Moisture Plus for 20 minutes on shelf position 2, releasing a burst of steam.
- 11. Remove pots from the oven and sprinkle with grated cheese.
- 12. Return pots to the oven and cook for a further 5 minutes.
- 13. Using a digital thermometer, test the soup is at 95?C, serve immediately.

# Hints and tips

- Duck fat can be substituted with goose or chicken fat.
- A good quality gruyere cheese is essential, we used Heidi Farm gruyere.
- Porcini mushrooms used to create the stock can be retained and used for a stir-fry or risotto.
- You can purchase bouquet garni from your local fruit and vegetable shop, alternatively you can make a bouquet garni by using thyme, bay leaves and peppercorns and wrap in muslin cloth.