



# Poached winter fruit and gingerbread crumbs with lemon thyme mascarpone

By Michael Meredith

35 minutes

Preparation time

1 hour 35 minutes

Cooking time

4 serves

Serves

# **INGREDIENTS**

2 ripe quince, or 4 firm pears

# Stock syrup

Juice and zest of 1 lemon Juice and zest of 1 orange 1 bay leaf 250g caster sugar 400ml water 1 star anise 1 cinnamon stick

# Gingerbread

150g plain flour 1/4 cup rolled oats ½ tsp bi-carb soda ½ tsp ground cloves 11/2 tsp ground ginger ½ tsp ground cinnamon 75g butter 50g brown sugar ½ beaten egg 100g blackstrap molasses 1/2 tsp salt

# Lemon thyme mascarpone

1 tbsp honey 10g lemon thyme, picked and chopped 250g mascarpone 1 lemon, zest and juice

#### **METHOD**

#### Stock syrup

- 1. Place all of the ingredients into the induction suitable medium gourmet casserole dish.
- 2. Cook on medium heat, induction setting 5 and dissolve the sugar into the water for 5 minutes.

#### Fruit

- 1. Peel the fruit and remove the cores. Place into the stock syrup.
- 2. Bring to boil on high heat, induction setting 9, then reduce to setting 5. Cover and simmer for 1 hour 30 minutes for the quince and between 10–25 minutes for the pears. Check to see if cooked by inserting a skewer or small knife into fruit to see if soft.
- 3. Once cooked, carefully remove fruit and reduce stock syrup on high heat, induction setting 8, until slightly thickened and glossy.
- 4. Strain back onto the fruit, discarding aromatics.

### Gingerbread

- 1. Sift together flour, bi-carb soda, salt and spices in a bowl then add oats and combine.
- 2. Melt butter, sugar and molasses in a saucepan on low heat, induction setting 4, once evenly combined remove from heat.
- 3. Cool slightly for 5 minutes then whisk in the egg.
- 4. Pour the wet ingredients into the dry and mix to form a soft dough, wrap and rest for an hour in the refrigerator.
- 5. Preheat the oven on Fan Plus at 160°C.
- 6. Press dough out on a sheet of baking paper to ½ cm thick, lightly roll if needed, then transfer to an oven tray.
- 7. Using a fork pierce some holes into the pastry.
- 8. Place in the oven and bake for 16-18 minutes.
- 9. Once cooked, remove from the oven and cool.
- 10. Once cooled, use a knife and cut into small crumbs.

# Lemon thyme mascarpone

- 1. In a saucepan add honey and lightly warm on low heat, induction setting 3.
- 2. Add thyme and remove from heat, let it infuse for 5 minutes.
- 3. Mix into mascarpone with lemon zest and juice and refrigerate until serving.

#### To serve

- 1. Carefully slice the fruit and place into a shallow bowl.
- 2. Drizzle with syrup, add two quenelles of lemon thyme mascarpone and top with gingerbread.