

From the Healing Program Recipe Collection . . .

Dark Chocolate Panforte with Apricots, Cherries, Hazels & Figs

Gluten-free, Dairy-free, Wheat-free

Ingredients

You will need a small tin 17 cm diameter – springform with separate base is good – to facilitate removal. (It's really worthwhile getting one of these because you will make this recipe over and over!)

40g roasted hazel nuts½ teaspoon ground ginger50g roasted almonds½ teaspoon cinnamon70g pistachios½ teaspoon ground fennel10g cocoa powder½ teaspoon ground white pepper55g rice flourPure icing sugar for decorating70g dried soft figs60g dried apricots60g dried charries60g soft sultanas

60g dried cherries 60g soft sultanas 80g dark chocolate, broken up 160g honey

100g powder (caster) sugar

Method

Preheat oven to 125 degrees Celsius fan-forced (145 degrees conventional oven).

Grease the 17 cm tin, then also line with paper and grease that as well. Use a food processor to chop the almonds and hazels. Sift cocoa and flour together into a bowl. Add spices and dried fruit then mix in chopped nuts, whole pistachios and chocolate pieces until all are well blended.

To stick this mixture together - put the caster sugar and honey into a saucepan and warm over low heat. Keep stirring until it boils gently for a minute or two.

Now work quickly! Add the sugar/honey mixture to the dry ingredients in the bowl. Stir until combined (it gets VERY sticky as it cools so be prepared for a battle getting it out of the bowl!)

Press the mixture into the lined tin – it should be about 4-5cm thick. Dust top with pure icing sugar and bake for 20 minutes. When it comes out of the oven it will be soft – but it will become firmer upon cooling.

Serve

Wait until completely cooled before slicing thinly. Serve with good black coffee. Of course this **panforte** keeps beautifully in a tin or airtight container. Enjoy!