

Castagnaccio (Chestnut Calm)

PAIRS WONDERFULLY WITH A BOTTLE OF OUR BERGHOLD MERLOT



TO MAKE AHEAD: Store covered at room temperature for up to 4 days.

Sweets not your thing? This cake is almost savory, flavored with rosemary and pine nuts, and gets just a touch of sweetness from plumped raisins, with no added sugar. Chest-nut flour tends to clump together, so for the best texture don't skip the sifting step..

Ingredients

- 2 tablespoons fine dry breadcrumbs ½ cup raisins
- 2½ cups warm water, divided
- 4 cups chestnut flour
- 1 teaspoon salt
- ¼ cup extra-virgin olive oil, plus 2 teaspoons, divided
- 4 tablespoons pine nuts, toasted, divided
- 2 tablespoons coarsely chopped fresh rosemary

Directions

- 1. Preheat oven to 350° F. Coat a 9-inch round cake pan with cooking spray. Sprin-kle with breadcrumbs and tilt and turn to coat the pan. Shake out the excess.
- 2. Place raisins in a small bowl and cover with½ cup warm water. Let plump for 10 minutes.
- 3. Meanwhile, sift chestnut flour and salt into a large bowl. Stir in the remaining 2 cups water and ¼ cup oil. (The batter will be thick yet pourable, like melted peanut butter.) Drain the raisins arid stir them into the batter, along with 2 tablespoons pine nuts. Scrape the batter into the prepared pan. Sprinkle with rosemary and the re-maining 2 tablespoons pine nuts and gen-tly press them into the batter. Drizzle with the remaining 2 teaspoons oil.
- 4. Bake the cake until it is firm and the sur-face is crackly, 35 to 40 minutes. Let cool in the pan for 10 minutes, then turn out onto a wire rack until cool enough to slice. Serve warm or at room temperature.