



Confit of duck with apple and pear

By Shannon Bennett

40 minutes

Prep time

4 hours 25 minutes

Cooking time

4 Servings

Serves

INGREDIENTS

Duck breast

4 duck breasts

3 large sebago potatoes

2 tablespoons olive oil

Knob of butter

1 tablespoon Italian parsley,

very finely chopped

1 tablespoon

Beechworth honey

3 Granny Smith apples

3 Williams pears

150ml Dirty Granny cider

½ bunch kale

Confit duck leg

4 duck legs

50g Murray River Sea Salt

1 tablespoon

eight spice powder

1 sprig of thyme

1 bay leaf

1kg duck fat

Knob of butter, extra

Eight spice powder

20g juniper berries

30g whole star anise

15g white peppercorns

15g cinnamon quills

15g cloves

1 pinch saffron threads

25g Murray River Sea Salt

10g cardamom pods

METHOD

Eight spice powder

- 1. Toast the spices in a large pan over medium heat, Induction setting 4-5, for 1 minute, or until fragrant.
- 2. Grind all the spices to a fine powder in a spice grinder or mortar and pestle.
- 3. Allow to cool.
- 4. Store remaining spices in an airtight container

Confit duck leg

- 1. Trim the knuckle from leg bone and discard.
- 2. Sprinkle each duck leg with salt, eight spice and herbs; leave to salt for 12 hours.
- 3. Pre-heat oven on Conventional at 110?C.
- 4. Wipe salt from the duck with paper towel.
- Place duck into medium Gourmet oven dish, cover with duck fat, place in oven on shelf position 2 and cook for 4 hours.The meat should nearly fall off the bone.
- Once cooked, carefully drain on a resting rack and leave to cool in the refrigerator.

Potato

- 1. Cut potatoes into 16 rounds using a 30mm parisienne cutter and Steam at 100?C for 15 minutes.
- 2. Strain and set aside until required.

Duck breast

- 1. Season both sides of the duck breast with sea salt.
- 2. In a non-stick pan, place duck breast, skin side down, and cook for approximately 5-8 minutes on medium-high heat, Induction setting 6-7 until deep golden in colour
- 3. Turn the duck and cook for a further 20 seconds. Set aside.

Apples and pears

- 1. Peel apples and pears, keep in cold water with a little lemon juice to stop from oxidising.
- 2. Using the smaller side of a 25mm parisienne cutter, cut apples and pears into balls and place into the water
- Add honey, drained apples and pears to a small pan and lightly caramelise on medium-high heat, Induction setting 7, cook for 3 minutes.
- 4. Add cider and cook for 2 minutes, to cook off the alcohol.
- 5. Remove from heat and rest until serving.

To serve

- 1. Pre-heat oven on Fan Plus at 200?C.
- 2. Add butter to an oven proof pan and cook the confit duck leg skin side down on medium heat, Induction setting 5-6, for 5 minutes.
- 3. Place pan in the oven and cook for a further 6 minutes.
- 4. Place duck breast on a round baking tray in the oven with the duck legs and cook for a further 4 minutes.
- 5. Remove all duck from the oven, rest duck breast for 4 minutes before slicing.
- Heat 1 tablespoon of olive oil in pan and sauté potatoes on medium-high heat, Induction setting 7-8 until golden in colour.
- 7. Add a knob of butter and cook for a further minute, add parsley before serving.
- 8. Heat remaining tablespoon of oil and sauté kale in batches, until it becomes crisp.
- 9. Remove kale from pan and place onto paper towel to remove any excess oil and season with salt.
- 10. Place kale in position on plate, top with sliced duck breast.
- 11. Arrange four potatoes around the plate
- 12. Place confit duck leg on top of one of the potatoes to hold it up.
- 13. Add the apple and pears and drizzle sauce around the plate.

Hints and tips

- Eight spice powder can be stored for up to 3 months in an airtight container.
- Confit duck can be used in steamed buns with pickles.
- When purchasing the duck leg, ask your butcher to trim the knuckle from the leg bone.