





Serves 4

Ingredients

220g strong plain flour 1 x 7g sachet fast action yeast

50g caster sugar, plus extra for lining tins

2 eggs

70ml milk

½ tsp salt

100g butter, softened

For the syrup

250g caster sugar 4 tbsp dark rum

For the Chantilly Cream

200ml double cream 25g icing sugar Few drops vanilla extract



Method

- Place the flour in a large bowl. Stir in the yeast and sugar.
- 2. Mix together the eggs, milk and salt until well combined.
- 3. Add three-quarters of the milk mix to the flour and stir to combine
- 4. Mix in the rest of the liquid and knead the dough on a floured worktop until it's smooth, about 10 minutes.
- 5. Add in the softened butter and knead it through the dough thoroughly until it's stretchy, about 5 minutes.
- Place the dough back into a bowl and cover with cling film. Set the dough aside to rise for at least an hour, until doubled in size.
- Grease and sugar four x 11cm/4½in fluted rum baba tins. Turn the dough out of the bowl and knock it back by kneading it
 a few times.
- 8. Place the dough into a piping bag with a large plain nozzle. Pipe the dough into the four moulds. Try and get them all as equal as possible.
- 9. Preheat the oven to 180°C/160Fan/Gas 4.
- 10. Allow the dough to prove for a second time until it has expanded almost to the top of the tins.
- Bake in the preheated oven for about 20-25 minutes.
- 12. Meanwhile make the syrup. Put the sugar and rum in a small saucepan with 200ml/7fl oz water and bring to the boil.
- 13. When the babas are cooked, take them out of the oven and allow to cool a little before carefully removing the cakes from their tins.
- 14. Place the babas onto a rack over a plate and spoon over half the syrup. Allow them to soak up all of the liquid; then turn them over and repeat with the rest of the liquid. Pop them in the fridge to chill.
- 15. Meanwhile for the Chantilly cream, whip the cream with the icing sugar and vanilla until it holds its shape. Spoon it into a piping bag and pipe the Chantilly cream, using a star nozzle, into the middle of the babas. Serve within 1 hour.

Cook's tip

The Chantilly cream doesn't have to be piped, it could simply be swirled onto the babas from the end of a fork.

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