

Risolis

From Nelson's Kitchen
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This is a very flavourful finger food dish that is best served warm with a cold beer or a cold lemonade. This is a Brazilian classic dish and it is found all over the country. This is my mother's version and it is very well regarded. In Brazil the recipe calls for one cup of milk. In Alberta the weather is very dry and thus the flour is quite dry. Thus I have increased the amount of milk to 1 1/4 cup.

Below is the classic version. You can make a dairy-free version by replacing the milk for water and the butter for margarine. There are many variations for the filling: beef with tomato sauce; lightly sauteed shrimp ground up, mushroom duxelles with heavy cream, a combination of good melting cheeses with dried herbs. The chicken filling itself can be flavoured in many ways with various fresh herbs. However, this classic version is my favourite.

Ingredients:

- 1 1/4 cup of milk (10 3/4 oz = 305 grams)
- 1 1/2 cup of flour (7.5 oz = 212 grams)
- 1 Tablespoon of butter
- 1/2 teaspoon of salt
- 2 eggs
- 1 1/2 cups of freshly made bread crumbs
- 3 to 4 cups of flavourless cooking oil
- chicken filling

Procedure:

1. Make the dough

- In a sauce pan boil the milk with the butter and salt.
- Once the milk is boiling, dump the flour at once into the boiling milk.
- Using a wooden spoon, mix the dough until it is releasing from the bottom of the pan.
- Let the dough cool until it is safe to handle.

2. Shape the risolis

- Working with 1/3 of the dough at a time, keep the remainder dough covered with plastic wrap to avoid drying.
- Roll out the dough to a 1/16 of an inch.
- Using a water glass, cut circles of dough.
- Carefully spoon a small amount of filling in the center of each circle.
- Fold each circle and press the edges together to close the risolis.
- Put each risolis in a covered dish to avoid drying.

3. Bread the risolis

- Break the eggs into a dish and add a tablespoon of water.
- Add a small dash of salt.
- Beat the eggs until they are very well mixed.
- Put the bread crumbs in another dish.
- Working with a few at a time, deep the risolis in the egg wash and then coat with bread crumbs.
- If you will cook in the next couple of days, you can put the risolis in a covered dish and keep in the refrigerator.
- You can also freeze the risolis at this point.
 - Place the risolis spaced apart on a baking sheet lined with parchment paper.
 - Put in the freezer.
 - Once they are frozen you can put them in a ziplock plastic bag.

4. Fry the risolis

- Put the cooking oil in a sauce pan. The quantity depends on how many risolis you plan to fry and on the size of the saucepan. You need to have enough oil to submerge the risolis.
- Fry the risolis until they are golden.
- Let the risolis cool off in a rack but serve them warm.