

Slow Provencal Lamb

Recipe courtesy Laura Calder

Total Time: 7 hr 5 min

Prep: 35 min | Inactive Prep: 3 hr 15 min | Cook: 3 hr 15 min

Level: Intermediate
Yield: 6 servings

INGREDIENTS

1 lamb shoulder (about 4 1/2 pounds/2 kg), cut into large chunks 3 bay le

Kosher salt and freshly ground black pepper 2 branches fresh rosemary

3 tablespoons olive oil 1 bouquet fresh thyme

3 onions, peeled and sliced 1 head garlic, broken into peeled cloves 6 plum tomatoes 1 pound/450 g eggplant, cut into chunks

About 1 1/2 cups/375 ml red or white wine 1 pound/450 g red peppers, seeded, cut into strips

1 cup/250 ml veal stock 1 pound/450 zucchini, cut into chunks

DIRECTIONS

Heat the oven to 300 degrees F\150 degrees C.

Sprinkle the lamb generously with salt and pepper. Heat a spoonful or two of the oil in a cocotte (Dutch oven) and brown the meat well on both sides, about 15 minutes per side. Remove the meat.

Add another spoonful of the oil and cook the onions until soft, 5 to 7 minutes. While the onions are browning, peel, quarter and seed the tomatoes over a sieve set over a bowl to catch the juices. Reserve the tomatoes for later. Pour the juice into a 2 cup/500 ml measuring cup and add enough wine to fill. Deglaze the onions with the veal stock, stirring up the good bits from the bottom. Then add the wine and tomato juice mixture. Add the bay leaves, rosemary, thyme and garlic. Wet a piece of parchment paper and lay it over the meat, cover and bake 1 hour 30 minutes.

While the lamb cooks, salt the eggplant and set in a colander to drain, about 30 minutes. Rinse and pat dry. Meanwhile, roast the red peppers. Once the lamb has cooked 1 hour 30 minutes, add the eggplant, tomatoes and peppers, cover and cook for another 1 hour.

Increase the heat to 400 degrees F/200 degrees C. Remove the lid and the parchment, add the zucchini and cook a further 45 minutes uncovered.

For serving: Remove from the oven. Remove the herbs. Spoon the lamb onto plates, with the sauce spooned over.

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