

ORANGE AND ALMOND SPONGE CAKE

Using a mix of whole eggs, gorgeous golden yolks and ground almonds makes a gloriously soft sponge. Flavoured with a little orange zest and filled with whipped cream and raspberry jam, it's a fabulous twist on the traditional Victoria sponge.

Prep time 20 minutes | Cook time 25-30 minutes | Serves 6-8

130q plain flour

2 teaspoons baking powder

¼ teaspoon fine salt

100g ground almonds

175q unsalted butter, softened

300q golden caster sugar

Zest of 2 oranges

3 Clarence Court Burford Brown eggs

4 Clarence Court Burford Brown egg yolks

1 teaspoon almond essence

175ml milk

3 tablespoons good quality raspberry jam

100g fresh raspberries 250ml fresh double cream

Icing sugar, to dust

Preheat the oven to 170° C/150°C (fan). Grease and line the bases of 2 x 20cm round cake tins.

Mix together the plain flour, baking powder and salt in a small mixing bowl, then sieve into a larger bowl and mix with the ground almonds.

Place the butter in the bowl of a freestanding mixer and add the caster sugar. Beat together for a few minutes until light and fluffy then grate in the orange zest.

Whisk the eggs and yolks together in a bowl and with the mixer running, gradually add the eggs with a spoon or two of the flour mix.

Add the almond essence to the milk.

To the mixer, add a third of the flour mixture, then half the milk mixture and beat for a few seconds. Add the the second third, followed by the final third of the flour mix and beat for a few more seconds, then fold in the final third of flour mix until all mixed in.



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Divide the cake batter between the prepared baking tins, smooth and level off the mixture. Place the tins in the oven and bake for 25-30 minutes, until golden and risen.

Insert a skewer in to the sponge – if it comes out clean, it's ready. Allow the sponges to sit in their tins for 5 minutes before turning out on to a cooling rack until fully cooled.

Before you're ready to serve, mix the jam in a small bowl until it becomes easier to spread. Place one of the sponges on a serving board and spread the jam on top. Using a stand mixer, softly whip the cream and spoon onto the jam layer. Place the other sponge on top and scatter over the raspberries. Dust with a little icing sugar and serve.









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