

Not Cross Buns

Ingredients:

- 1 x Goodness Flour Pizza Base for 4
- 60g + 40g Brown Sugar
- 3 teaspoons ground cinnamon
- 2 teaspoons mixed spice
- 1/4 teaspoon ground clove
- ½ teaspoon ginger powder
- Freshly ground cardamom seeds, to taste
- 85g dried apricats, diced
- 85g dried figs, diced with stalks removed
- 85g dates (I used Medjool)
- 450g (435ml) milk
- 50g butter
- 2 large, free range eggs
- 75g pistachio nuts, roughly chopped
- 1. Tip Pizza Base blend into a large mixing bowl. (A stand mixer with a dough attachment is great if you have one.) Add 60g of brown sugar, the spices and mix together.
- 2. Pour the milk into a medium sized saucepan (heavy bottom, if possible). Add the butter and heat gently. When the butter starts to melt, take the saucepan off the heat and set aside.
- 3. Measure out your fruit. In a small, separate bowl, whisk the eggs. Check the temperature of the milk and butter. It should be around 35° C. Whisk in the eggs. Add the wet ingredients to the flour blend.
- 4. If you have a stand mixer, mix for around 8 minutes. Then add the dried fruit and mix for 2 3 minutes. It will still be a fairly sticky dough. That's ok.
- 5. If you don't have a standmixer, no problem, just use a flat bladed knife to mix the dough (including the fruit) until it almost comes together, then using clean hands, finish mixing to a soft dough. Turn dough out onto a lightly floured surface. Knead for 10 minutes, or until the dough is smooth.
- 6. Place the dough into a lightly oiled bowl and cover with sugar wrap or a damp tea towel. Set aside in a warm, draught free place for $1 1 \frac{1}{2}$ hours to rise. (Ignore those Instagram photos of giant pillows of dough, as long as it rises by at least 50%, it should be fine.)
- 7. Line a large baking tray with non-stick baking paper. Tip the dough onto a clean workspace and divide it into 16 equal portions. Shape each into a ball.
- 8. Place balls onto the lined tray, about 1cm apart. Cover with oiled sugar wrap / a clean tea towel and set aside in a warm, draught free place for 30 minutes. (Mine don't generally get to double in size, but it seems to work fine anyway.)
- 9. While the dough is proving, preheat the oven to 195°C.
- 10. Place buns into the preheated oven and bake for 20 25 minutes, or until buns are cooked through.
- 11. While the buns are cooking, make the glaze by mixing 40g water and 40g of brown sugar in a small saucepan over low heat. Stir until the sugar dissolves and the syrup thickens slightly. Remove from heat.
- 12. Brush the glaze over the warm buns. Sprinkl.e pistachio nuts over the top.
- 13. Serve warm, with butter. They'll last for a few days in an air tight container, just warm them slightly when you serve them. They also freeze well just defrost, warm slightly and serve.