Hazelnut Muhammara

Makes 3 cups

Prep and cook time: 2070 minutes

I cup Oregon hazelnuts

2 small red bell peppers, seeded and diced fine

I small red onion, diced fine

3 Tbs fresh lemon juice

1/2 cup dry bread crumbs (unseasoned), ground fine

1/4 cup pomegranate molasses

I Tbs sugar

I Tbs ground cumin

2 tsp salt

1/2 tsp cayenne pepper

1/2 tsp Aleppo pepper

1/4 cup olive oil - approximate

Garnish: cilantro, parsley, and/or pomegranate seeds



- I. Finely chop hazelnuts. If using a food processor, be careful not to grind them into a paste. Transfer to a medium size mixing bowl.
- 2. Add finely diced red bell peppers, red onion, and fresh lemon juice. Stir to mix.
- 3. Add bread crumbs, pomegranate molasses, sugar, cumin, salt, cayenne pepper, and Aleppo pepper. Stir to blend.
- 4. Slowly add olive oil and blend until the mixture resembles a course puree.
- 5. Transfer to a serving bowl and garnish with combination of cilantro, parsley, and/or pomegranate seeds. Serve with a variety of crudités and toasted baguette, pita bread, or naan. This muhammara mixture will keep for 3 to 5 days covered and refrigerated.
- 6. Enjoy with a Fairsing Vineyard chilled Rosé of Pinot noir or Chardonnay.

This hearty dip or sandwich spread combines savory, sweet, spicy, tangy, and slightly smoky qualities. Add additional Aleppo and/or cayenne pepper to increase the heat. If unable to locate pomegranate molasses, a mixture of honey or maple syrup with fresh lemon juice is a close substitute (pomegranate molasses is sweet and tart).

While traditional Muhammara blends walnuts and roasted red peppers, this version is a nod to Oregon's official State nut - the hazelnut. Packed with protein and fiber (and healthy fats), this rustic mixture elevates any grilled fish, chicken, taco, or salad. Enjoy!