

LUSSEBULLE RECIPE

Ingredients

1 g (1 tsp) saffron threads or readily ground saffron, (2 pkts)
3 g (½ tsp) sugar
½ tbsp vodka (or cognac)
36 raisins
250 ml (1 cup) milk
75 g salted butter
450 g (3½ cups) flour
65 g (4½ tbsp) caster sugar
1 tsp baking powder*
7 g "fast action" dried yeast, 1 packet*
1 egg, lightly beaten to glaze

Method

- 1. Place the saffron threads in a mortar with the sugar and grind with the pestle until evenly mixed. Pour over the vodka and leave to stand for at least 30 minutes.
- 2. Place the raisins in a bowl, pour some water over them and then leave them until required.
- 3. Heat the milk until warm, between 35°C and 40°C (95°F to 105°F).
- 4. Melt the butter separately, allow to cool slightly and then stir into the milk mixture.
- 5. Sift the flour into a bowl. Add the sugar and baking powder. Mix with a spoon.
- 6. Add the yeast and mix with a spoon.
- 7. Stir in the mortared saffron and the milk mixture. Bring together to form a dough.
- 8. Knead the dough until smooth and elastic. Cover with a cloth and leave in a warm draught-free place for about an hour or until it has doubled in size.
- 9. Tip the dough out on to a floured surface and punch once or twice to knock it back. Divide into about 16 equally sized pieces.

- 10. Using your fingers roll out each piece so that it is about 30 cm (12") long, as thick as your finger and curl into tight S shapes. Place each one on a lined or greased baking sheet. Cover loosely and leave for about 30 minutes until doubled in size again.
- 11. Preheat the oven to 220°C (425°F, gas 7, fan 190°C).
- 12. Brush the buns with the beaten egg add a raisin into the centre of each of the two coils. Bake for 8-10 minutes until golden brown. Leave to cool on a wire rack.
- *I prefer replacing the baking powder and dry yeast with fresh yeast (50g/1 pkt) which I break up and dilute with the butter and milk mixture make sure the fluids are approx. 38°C.

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